

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Community Survey, 2009

A Sourcebook of Community Attitudes

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In Partnership with

Matanuska-Susitna Borough

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Introduction

The *Matanuska-Susitna Borough Community Survey* (Mat-Su Survey) is a cooperative research effort between the Justice Center at University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. Distributed to 2,733 residents of the Mat-Su Borough selected in a stratified random sample in the fall of 2009,¹ the *Mat-Su Survey* asks residents to evaluate the quality of Borough services, provide opinions about Borough decision-making, and sum up their perceptions about a range of issues relevant to the present and future of the Mat-Su community.

This sourcebook presents the results of the *Mat-Su Survey* in a tabular format with accompanying graphs. These findings will help the Borough prioritize projects, improve services, and better plan for community growth. Further, they will provide important information to UAA so that it may advance community research. Finally, they will serve as a useful reference for Mat-Su residents curious about how their neighbors view issues of local interest.

Data Collection, Entry, Analysis

In 2006, the Borough worked with the UAA Justice Center to develop the survey questionnaire. It was modified somewhat for the subsequent survey in 2007. In 2008, two new questions on race and ethnicity were added. That version was used in the current 2009 survey; it comprises 12 pages and 115 questions (see Appendix B).

A list with the names and addresses of over 28,000 adults was generated by InfoUSA and a stratified random sample was drawn from the 43 different census tracts in the Mat-Su Borough. This sampling strategy is different from what was used in 2008—a simple random sample of all adults in the Borough—and consequently, the characteristics of the sampled group vary from last year's study. Specifically, sampling from each of the census tracts results in a sample that is considerably more rural, while a borough-wide sample results in many more respondents from the more densely-populated areas of Wasilla and Palmer. While the stratified random sample approach ensures more representation from all parts of the Borough, it can also lead to respondent fatigue; some census tracts have so few residents that it is likely that someone in such a tract would be selected year after year to participate in the survey. To minimize this problem, sampling from each census tract, as opposed to borough-wide, is done every second year. Accordingly, the results from the 2009 *Mat-Su Survey* are more comparable to the 2007 survey findings (the most recent year when a stratified random sampling method was used).

Guided by the Tailored Design Method (Dillman 2007) the UAA Justice Center mailed pre-notice letters to every individual selected for inclusion in the random sample approximately two weeks before the questionnaire was delivered. Over the next eight weeks, the UAA Justice Center mailed the *Mat-Su Survey*, a follow-up postcard, and a replacement questionnaire to residents in the sample. Surveys could be completed by filling out the paper questionnaires provided, or by logging onto to a secure website and accessing the survey using a unique personal identification number (PIN). All completed surveys were delivered by mail to the UAA Justice Center, or downloaded from the Justice Center's secure server.

¹ The original drawn sample included 3,220 subjects, however, 497 addresses proved invalid as means of contacting the individuals in the sample.

Survey collection, data entry and database management occurred on-site at the UAA Justice Center. Sharon Chamard, Ph.D.—an Associate Professor at the UAA Justice Center—supervised the project. Research Assistant Khristy Parker managed the day-to-day operations of the survey and supervised the research technicians² who entered data from completed questionnaires into a statistical software package (SPSS) and transcribed respondent comments into a word processing program. Data entry began on September 9, 2009 and was finished on January 4, 2010. In addition to surveys received by mail, 138 surveys were completed over the Internet. A total of 1,406 completed or partially-completed surveys were received and entered into the electronic database.³ This represents a 51.6% response rate. Dr. Chamard and Khristy Parker analyzed the data and documented the results in this sourcebook.

Organization of the Sourcebook

The sourcebook follows the organization of the survey questionnaire itself (see Appendix B), which is made up of five major parts: I) Evaluation of Current Borough Services, II) Use of Borough Facilities, III) Life in Mat-Su Neighborhoods, IV) Local Government: Access, Policies and Practices, V) Respondent Background Information. Each of these parts has a corresponding battery of survey questions (numbered 1-48). The aggregate responses to these questions are presented in tabular format with accompanying bar graphs, and the summary tables are numbered according to the five major categories listed above.

The data analyses were conducted in an order that is reflected in the organization of the sourcebook. The first stage involved extracting and presenting highly detailed information for all 1,375 households that responded to the survey. The front section of the sourcebook provides these detailed Borough-wide results. Most of the survey questions used a Likert scale, which gives respondents a range of options for expressing how strongly they feel about a certain issue. For example, rather than asking simply whether respondents are satisfied with Ambulance Services (Part I; Question 1b), the survey asks them to rate the service on an ascending four-point scale ranging from “very poor” to “very good,” with a fifth “don’t know” option. The sourcebook summary tables and graphs present the proportions of all respondents who rated the service according to each component of this 4-part scale. Additionally, each response was assigned a numerical score (very poor=1; poor=2; good=3; very good=4) and an average rating (ranging from 1 to 4) was computed for each Borough service. Other questions used a five-point scale; numerical values assigned to responses ranged from 1 for “strongly disagree” to 5 for “strongly agree.” Higher average scores indicate higher overall satisfaction and lower scores indicate lower overall satisfaction.⁴ “Don’t know” responses were counted as missing and were not included in calculations of averages. The summary tables provide proportions only (no average scores) for questions requiring just a “yes” or “no” answer.

The 2009 *Mat-Su Survey* provides useful information on how Borough citizens rate and use current Borough services. In addition, the survey will assist UAA as the data are used to advance

² David Abbott, Zack Kemplen, Tai Koch and Kristopher Sperry worked on this survey. Their assistance is acknowledged and much appreciated.

³ All surveys are confidential—during the data entry process neither the researchers nor staff at the Borough or UAA know the identities of survey respondents because the returned surveys do not include identifying information such as name or address and the mailing list is never connected to respondents’ answers.

⁴ More detail about the calculation of averages is in Appendix A.

community research. Three previous *Mat-Su Surveys* conducted in 2006, 2007, and 2008 provide a baseline for tracking any changes that might come in future Borough community surveys. The 2009 *Mat-Su Survey* continues this longitudinal effort and provides a response rate high enough to reduce the risks of nonresponse bias, while allowing the Borough to better allocate resources to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

MAT-SU COMMUNITY **SURVEY 2009:**

Executive Summary of Results

The findings discussed below are based on analysis of the 1,406 questionnaires that were returned during the sixteen-week data collection period. This survey achieved a 51.6% response rate.⁵

Borough Services (Parts 1 and 2)

Overall, the analyses reveal that Borough residents rated Borough services as good, with most mean scores above 2.5 (midway between “poor” and “good,” which had scores of 2 and 3 respectively). The only service that was below the 2.5 “average” mark was Code/Zoning Enforcement Services (2.47). A sizable minority voiced complaints about Road Maintenance Services (2.78), Recycling Services (2.61) and Dissemination of news and information by Borough government (2.52).

For every item except Road Maintenance, Snowplow Services, and Central Landfill Service, a notable portion of respondents indicated they “Don’t Know” (ranging from 20% to 57%). Comments written on some of the surveys and in the letters and phone calls that accompanied them suggested that residents outside of Palmer and Wasilla believed that the Borough did not provide those services in their communities. Some respondents said that, in fact, none of the Borough services were relevant to their remote communities. In these instances, it may be that “Don’t Know” carries a non-neutral weight if respondents are dissatisfied with the Borough’s apparent inattention to their area’s needs.⁶

Seventy-five percent of these respondents have indicated that they do use the Borough Libraries, and even libraries in areas with few respondents show that they are being used. Similarly, 75 percent of respondents state that they use Borough recreational areas, with the Wasilla Pool and assorted Borough trails being the most popular. Only 9% of respondents indicate that they use MASCOT Public Transportation at all.

Life in the Borough Neighborhoods (Part 3)

Borough residents report being generally happy with their neighborhoods and their feeling of community with neighbors. Most respondents rate their neighborhoods highly and generally report that their neighbors are trustworthy, get along, and are willing to help one another, but only 30% are willing to go so far as to say the neighborhood is close-knit. Respondents mostly see their neighbors as willing to intervene in cases of juvenile delinquency (though truancy seems less likely to produce that intervention than other forms of delinquency) and if their local fire station were threatened with budget cuts. A large majority of respondents visit with their neighbors at least occasionally, know a good number of their neighbors, and report that they have friends and relatives in the neighborhood.

Forms of physical neighborhood disorder (poor lighting, overgrown vegetation, conditions of buildings, cars, lots, etc.) seem to be fairly common (between 36% and 61%) in respondents’ neighborhoods. However, forms of social neighborhood disorder (public drinking/drug use, prostitution, graffiti, homeless sleeping in the neighborhood, etc.) are quite uncommon, reported by between 1% and 15% of respondents.

⁵ The response rate given here is the “maximum response rate,” as defined by the American Association for Public Opinion Research. This rate divides the total number of surveys that have been returned with answers on any items by the total number of deliverable addresses. Any addresses that were invalid (i.e., returned as “No such address,” or “Not deliverable as addressed” or “Moved – no forwarding address on file”) are not included in the calculated response rate.

⁶ This sentiment was expressed more than once in the comments respondents provided on the last page of their questionnaire. However, others hoped the Borough would continue to “ignore” their areas, believing that any government service would represent an unwanted government intrusion.

Respondents report little or no fear of crime in their neighborhoods, and fear of crime rarely—if ever—prevents their normal activities in the neighborhood. Fewer than 6% of respondents report being victimized in their neighborhoods. Just about all of the respondents report taking some kind of precaution against crime in their home; the most common precaution was locking doors at night or when not at home (90.8%). Over 70% of respondents said they keep a firearm in the home for self-protection.

Local Government: Access, Policies, and Practices (Part 4)

Nearly a third of all respondents stated that they were satisfied with their opportunities to provide input on Borough decisions while 23% were dissatisfied. Close to 40% of respondents answered “Don’t Know” about the Borough website’s ease of use or content, but agreed that when they phoned the Borough, they received the information they needed in a timely manner and from polite, professional staff on the phone.

Despite the positive tenor of so much of the rest of the survey to this point, 44% of respondents do not believe that they are getting their money’s worth for their tax dollars generally, and another 42% believe that current road maintenance is not as good as it should be for the tax dollars invested. Forty-two percent report that they would like to see Borough funds spent to preserve open spaces.

It comes as no surprise that taxation issues are particularly contentious. The strongest reactions were against a local gasoline tax (87% opposed) and an increased property tax (85% opposed). A sales tax—seasonal or year-round—had the next largest opposition (52% and 62% respectively). Support for other taxes was mixed, though there was a slight preference given to “sin” taxes on tobacco and alcohol, with almost 50% of respondents stating they “agree” or “strongly agree” with such taxes.

Sixty-two percent of respondents labeled traffic congestion a serious problem, while 40 percent are concerned about water quality in the Borough. Sixty-seven percent believed the Borough needs to do a better job managing growth and development.

Respondent Background Information (Part 5)

Significantly more women than men returned questionnaires (58% female, 40% male, with 30 people declining to answer the gender question). The majority of respondents are white (87%), with Alaska Natives and American Indians comprising slightly more than three percent of the sample. Only five percent self-identified as being of Hispanic or Latino/a background or origin. The average age of respondents is 50 years old.

Most respondents are married (75%), and the typical household includes between two and three people, but less than one child. The most typical level of education reported by respondents was “some college, no degree” (35%), while equal numbers of respondents (19%) said they had a high school degree or equivalent or a bachelor’s degree. Sixty percent of respondents reported a household income of \$50,000 or more. Most are employed full time (43%) or retired (18%), and of those who answered the question, 71 percent commute within the Mat-Su Borough.

Eighty-nine percent own their own home, which is valued at \$200,000 or more, and only 10% have a second home outside the Borough. The average respondent has lived in the Borough for 16 years and in their current home for eleven years. Seventy-five percent stated that their address is posted for emergency responders. The overwhelming majority of respondents see themselves staying in the Borough for the long term (85%).

Results for Geographic Areas within Borough

Many of the variables measured in this survey are displayed in this section, broken down into different communities based on respondents' zip codes. These communities include Big Lake (n=27), Houston (n=34), Palmer (n=378), Sutton (n=23), Talkeetna (n=36), Trapper Creek (n=35), Wasilla (n=843) and Willow (n=24). Chickaloon and Skwentna are represented in borough-wide statistics, but not in those for smaller geographic areas, because these communities had only three and two respondents respectively.

Tables in this section show the average score for respondents from each community, and the numbers of extreme responses (for example, "strongly disagree" and "strongly agree" on a five-point scale) to each question. Caution should be taken when comparing across communities. Because some of them have very few respondents, just a small number of extreme responses can significantly change average scores.

MAT-SU COMMUNITY
SURVEY 2009:

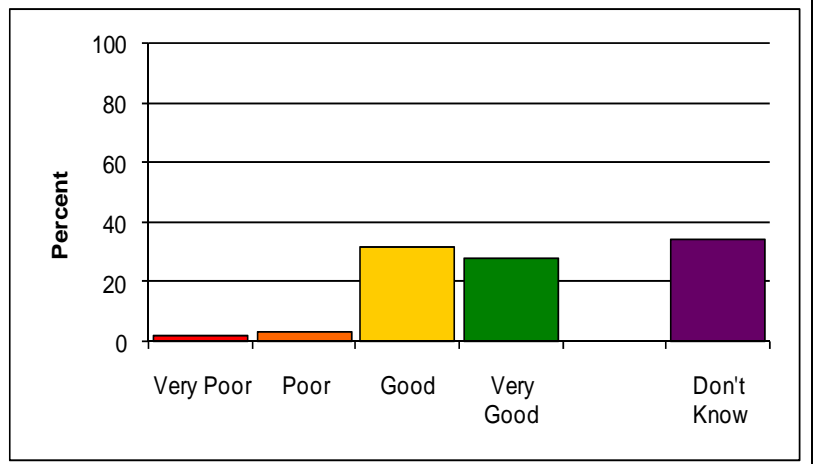
**Detailed Borough-wide
Results**

Part I: Evaluation of Current Borough Services

Fire Department Services

Average: 3.32

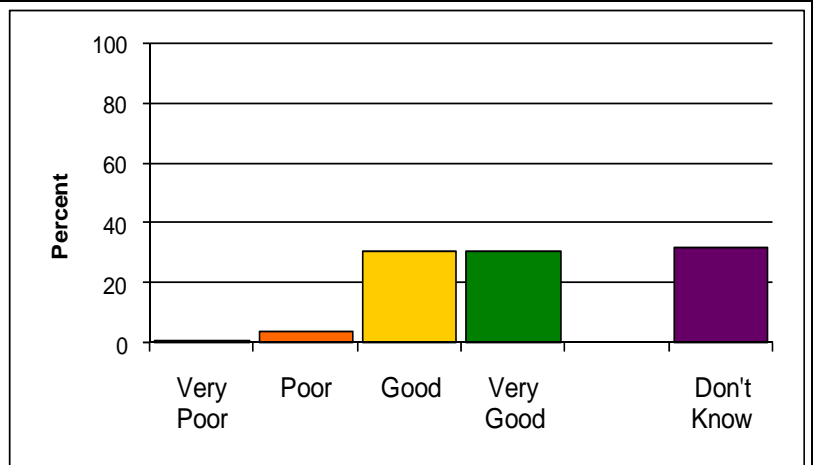
Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	26	1.8
Poor	47	3.3
Good	447	31.8
Very Good	392	27.9
Total Valid	912	64.9
Don't Know	478	34.0
Missing	16	1.1
Total	1406	100.0



Ambulance Services

Average: 3.38

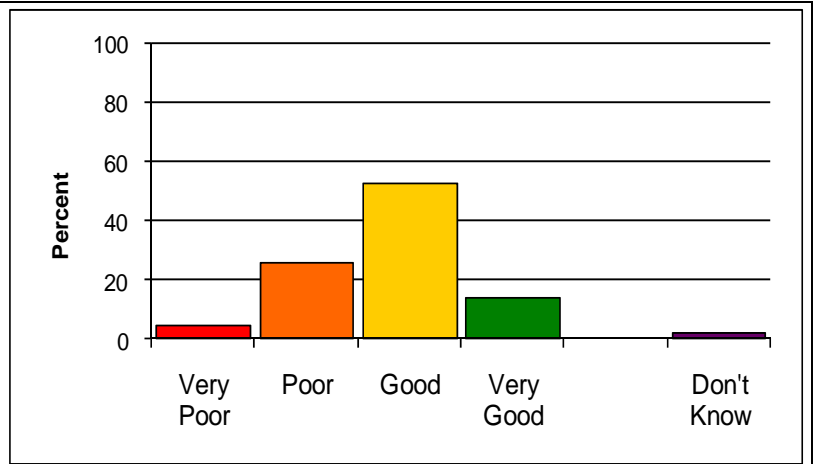
Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	14	1.0
Poor	50	3.6
Good	429	30.5
Very Good	431	30.7
Total Valid	924	65.7
Don't Know	445	31.7
Missing	37	2.6
Total	1406	100.0



Roadway Maintenance Services

Average: 2.78

Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	67	4.8
Poor	364	25.9
Good	741	52.7
Very Good	195	13.9
Total Valid	1337	97.2
Don't Know	23	1.6
Missing	16	1.1
Total	1406	99.9

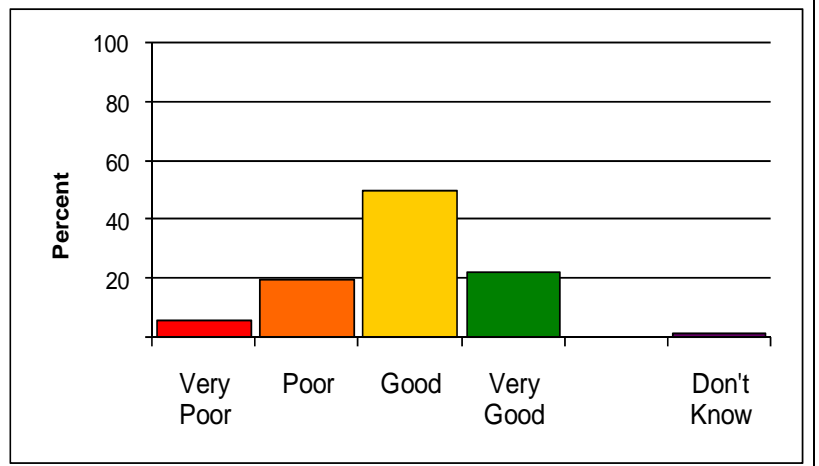


Part I: Evaluation of Current Borough Services

Snowplow Services

Average: 2.91

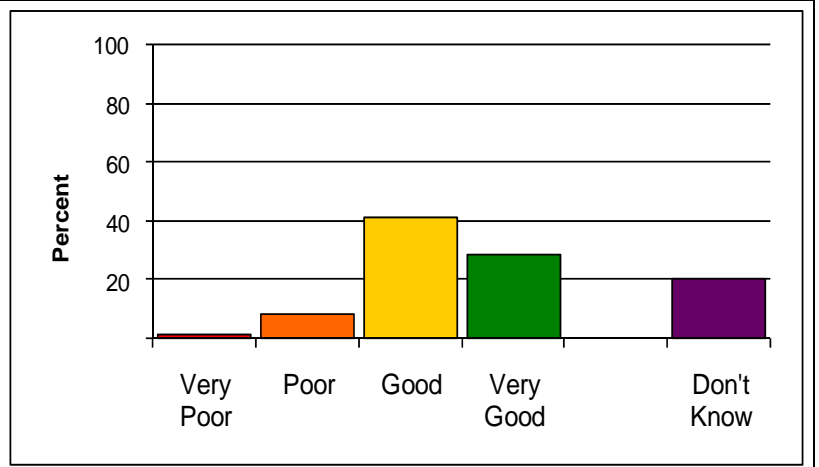
Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	79	5.6
Poor	278	19.8
Good	694	49.4
Very Good	307	21.8
Total Valid	1358	96.6
Don't Know	22	1.6
Missing	26	1.8
Total	1406	100.0



Library Services

Average: 3.23

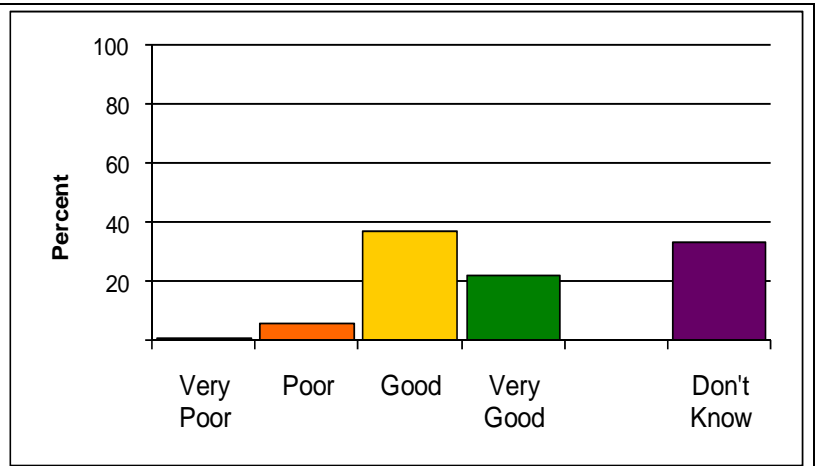
Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	16	1.4
Poor	113	8.0
Good	579	41.2
Very Good	400	28.4
Total Valid	1108	78.8
Don't Know	285	20.3
Missing	13	0.9
Total	1406	100.0



Elementary Schools

Average: 3.22

Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	13	0.9
Poor	85	6.0
Good	519	36.9
Very Good	312	22.2
Total Valid	929	66.1
Don't Know	459	32.6
Missing	18	1.3
Total	1406	100.0

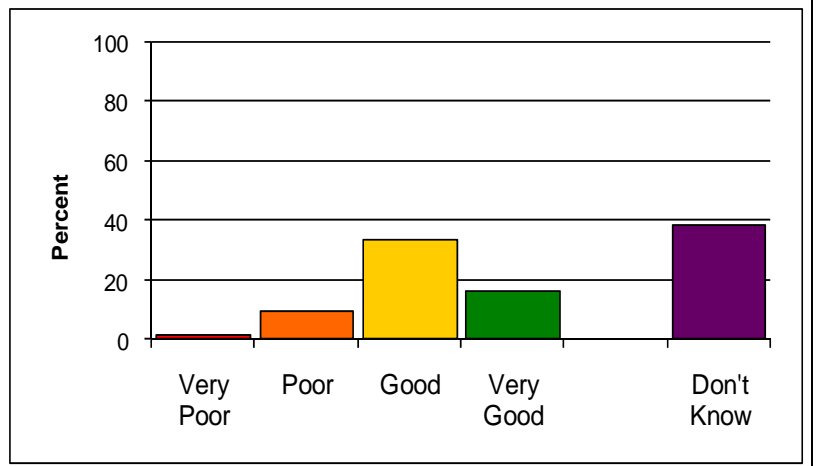


Part I: Evaluation of Current Borough Services

Middle Schools

Average: 3.05

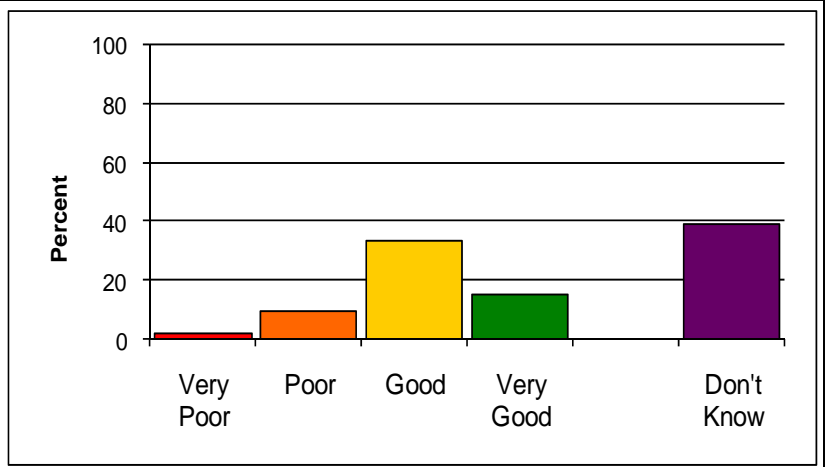
Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	21	1.5
Poor	134	9.5
Good	469	33.4
Very Good	222	15.8
Total Valid	846	60.2
Don't Know	539	38.3
Missing	21	1.5
Total	1406	100.0



High Schools

Average: 3.03

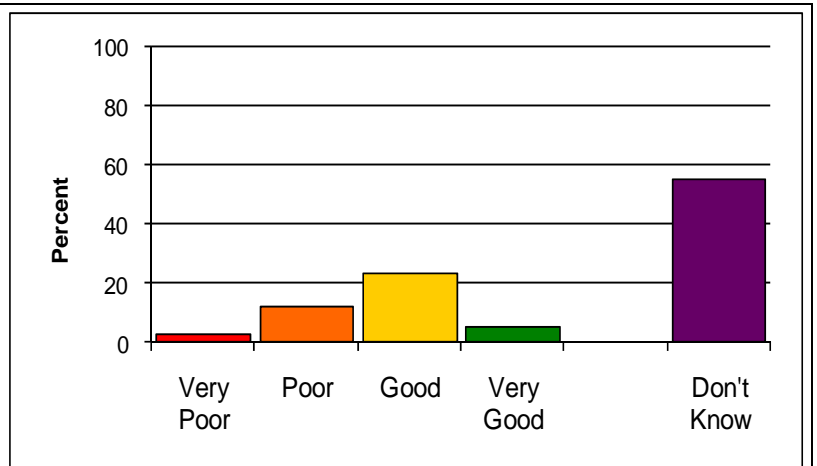
Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	25	1.8
Poor	136	9.7
Good	466	33.1
Very Good	212	15.1
Total Valid	839	59.7
Don't Know	545	38.8
Missing	22	1.6
Total	1406	100.1



Community Enhancement Programs

Average: 2.72

Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	40	2.8
Poor	164	11.7
Good	326	23.2
Very Good	74	5.3
Total Valid	604	43.0
Don't Know	767	54.6
Missing	35	2.5
Total	1406	100.1

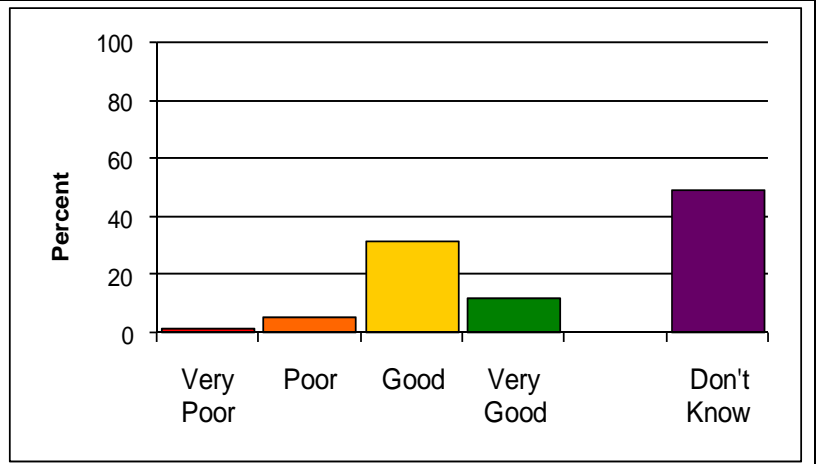


Part I: Evaluation of Current Borough Services

Wasilla Swimming Pool

Average: 3.07

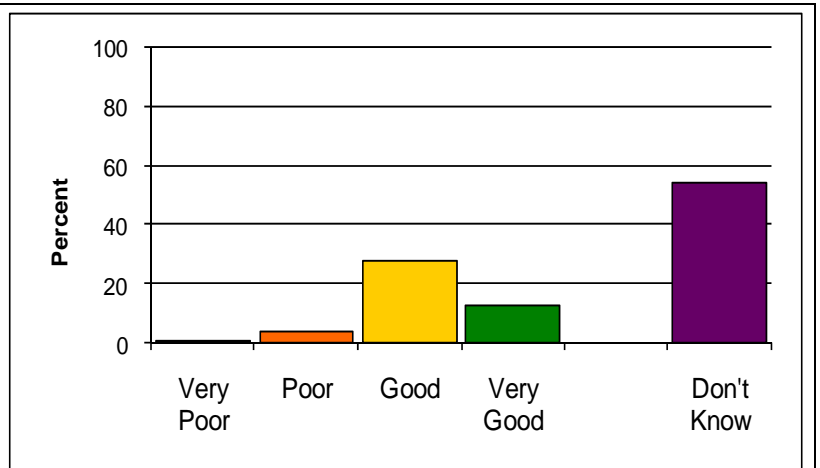
Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	20	1.4
Poor	76	5.4
Good	441	31.4
Very Good	167	11.9
Total Valid	704	50.1
Don't Know	689	49.0
Missing	13	0.9
Total	1406	100.0



Palmer Swimming Pool

Average: 3.18

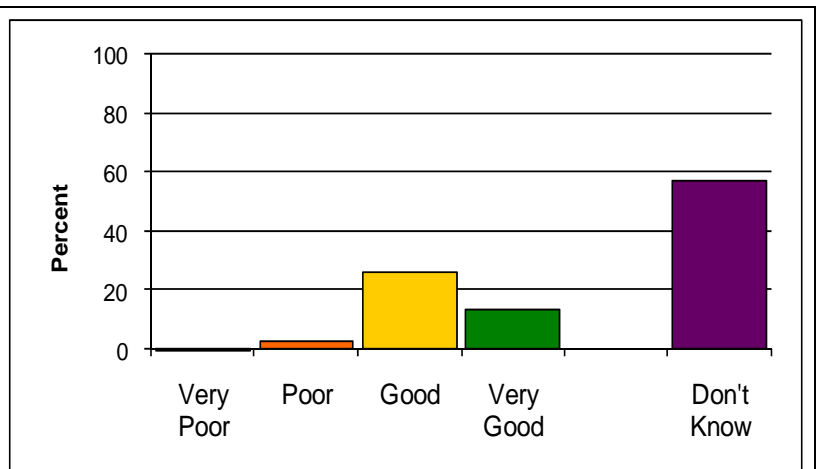
Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	11	0.8
Poor	47	3.3
Good	390	27.7
Very Good	180	12.8
Total Valid	630	44.6
Don't Know	761	54.2
Missing	17	1.2
Total	1406	100.0



Brett Memorial Ice Arena

Average: 3.24

Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	5	0.4
Poor	33	2.3
Good	364	25.9
Very Good	185	13.2
Total Valid	587	41.7
Don't Know	800	56.9
Missing	19	1.4
Total	1406	100.0

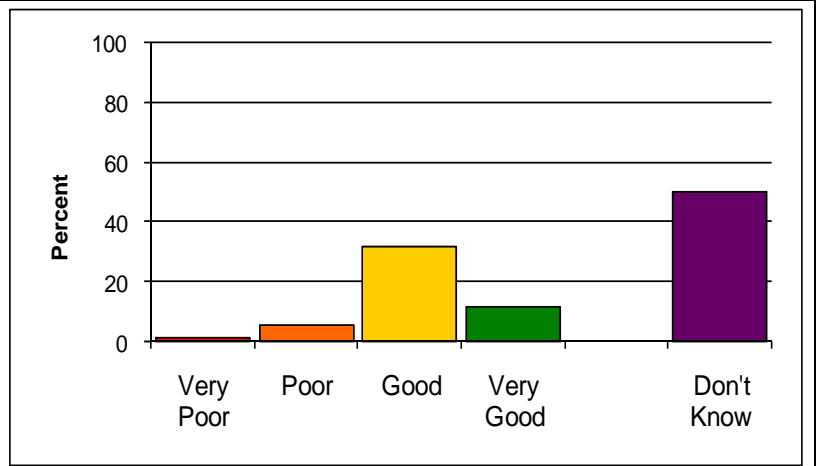


Part I: Evaluation of Current Borough Services

Athletic Fields

Average: 3.09

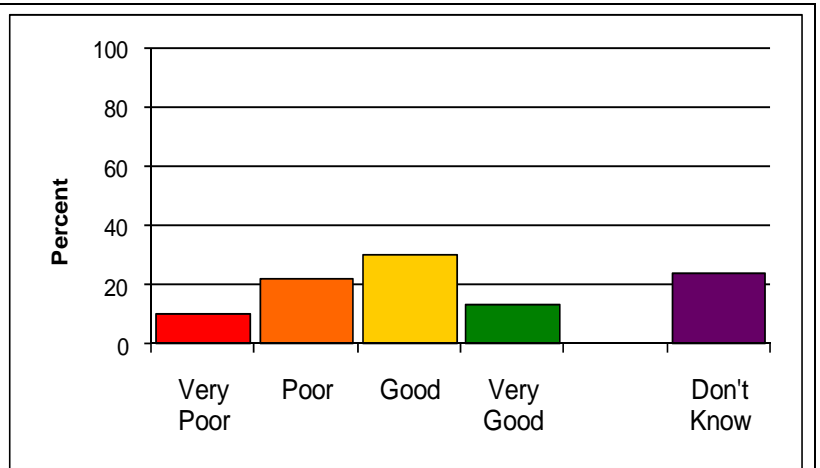
Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	11	0.8
Poor	73	5.2
Good	440	31.3
Very Good	159	11.3
Total Valid	683	48.6
Don't Know	703	50.0
Missing	20	1.4
Total	1406	100.0



Recycling Services

Average: 2.61

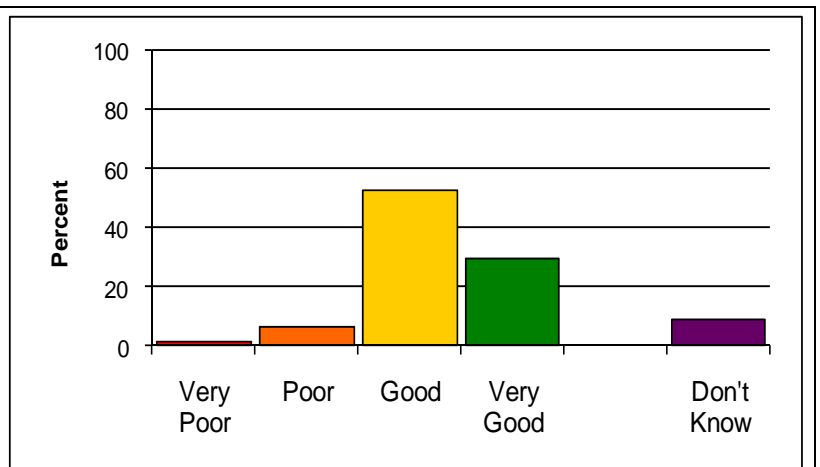
Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	146	10.4
Poor	310	22.0
Good	415	29.5
Very Good	188	13.4
Total Valid	1059	75.3
Don't Know	331	23.5
Missing	16	1.1
Total	1406	99.9



Central Landfill Services

Average: 3.23

Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	20	1.4
Poor	91	6.5
Good	734	52.2
Very Good	417	29.7
Total Valid	1262	89.8
Don't Know	127	9.0
Missing	17	1.2
Total	1406	100.0

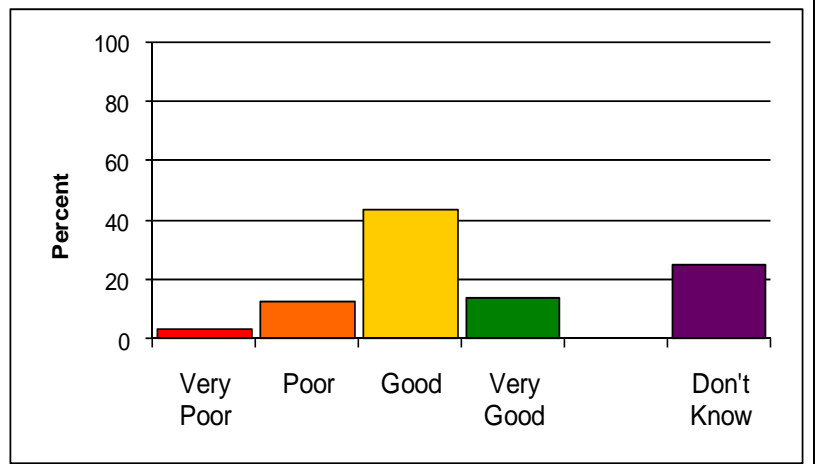


Part I: Evaluation of Current Borough Services

Animal Care and Regulation Services

Average: 2.92

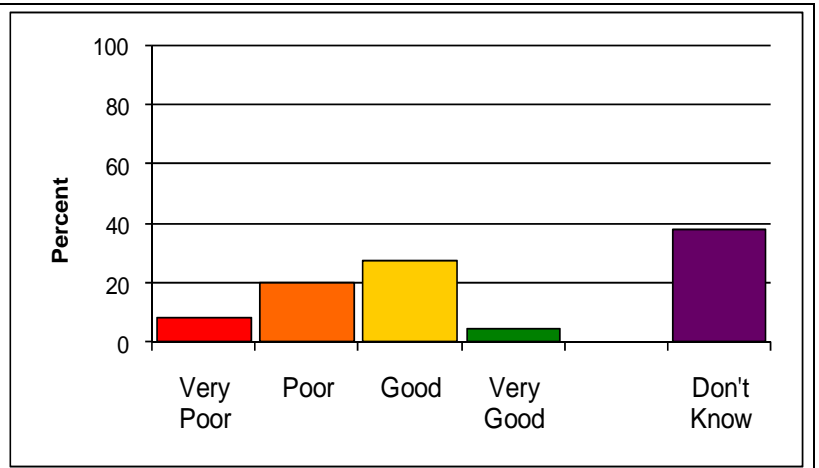
Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	50	3.6
Poor	179	12.7
Good	612	43.5
Very Good	194	13.8
Total Valid	1035	73.6
Don't Know	352	25.0
Missing	19	1.4
Total	1406	100.0



Code/Zoning Enforcement Services

Average: 2.47

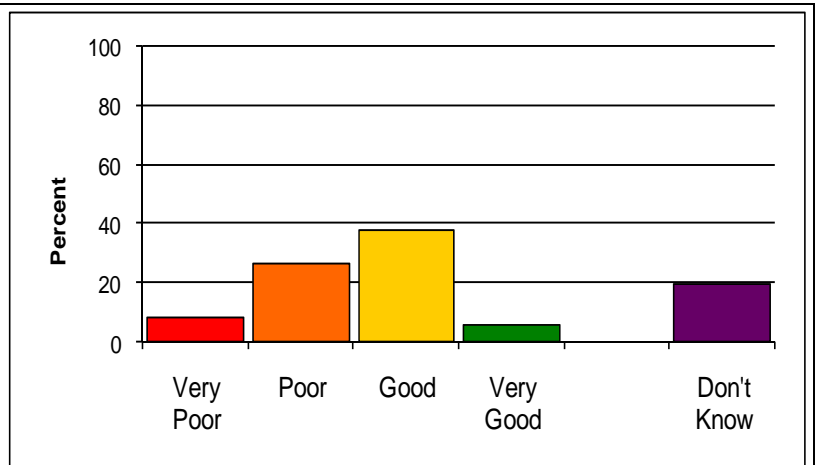
Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	116	8.3
Poor	280	19.9
Good	381	27.1
Very Good	65	4.6
Total Valid	842	59.9
Don't Know	536	38.1
Missing	28	2.0
Total	1406	100.0



Dissemination of News and Information by the Borough Government

Average: 2.52

Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	118	8.4
Poor	367	26.1
Good	531	37.8
Very Good	77	5.5
Total Valid	1093	77.7
Don't Know	279	19.8
Missing	34	2.4
Total	1406	99.9

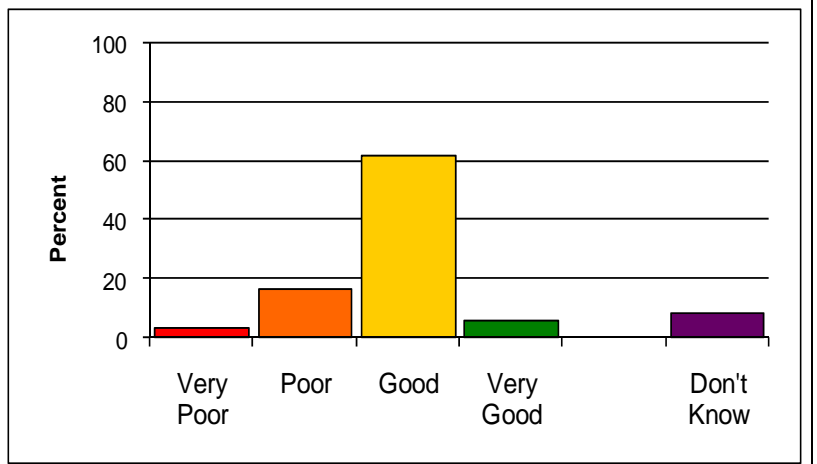


Part I: Evaluation of Current Borough Services

Overall Rating of Borough Services

Average: 2.81

Response	Freq	%
Very Poor	46	3.3
Poor	228	16.2
Good	869	61.8
Very Good	85	6.0
Total Valid	1228	87.3
Don't Know	116	8.3
Missing	62	4.4
Total	1406	100.0

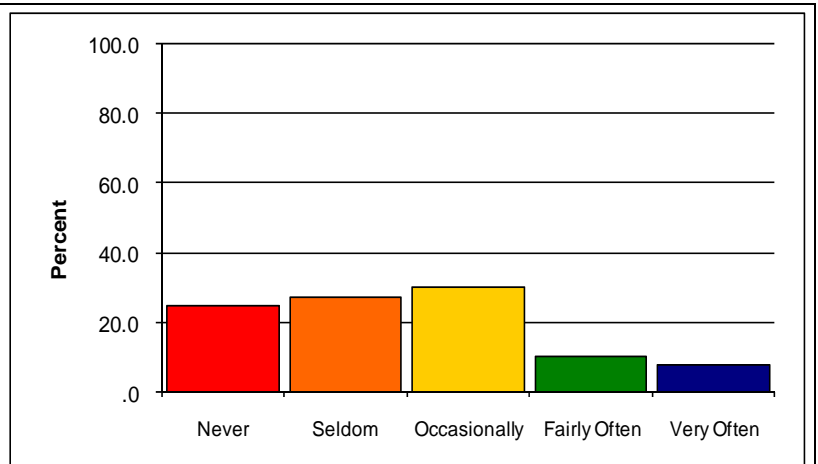


Part II: Use of Borough Facilities

Library Use Frequency

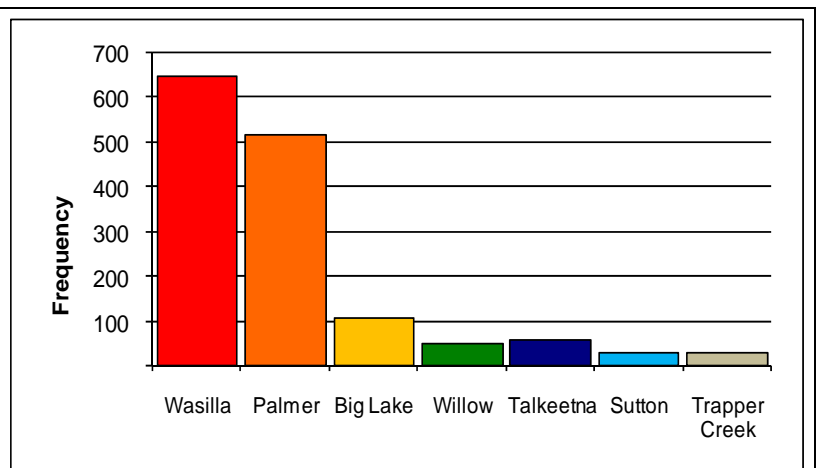
Average: 1.49

Response	Freq	%
Never	349	24.8
Seldom	375	26.7
Occasionally	420	29.9
Fairly Often	141	10.0
Very Often	112	8.0
Total Valid	1397	99.4
Missing	9	0.6
Total	1406	100.0



Public Library Use Locations*

Response	Freq	% [†]
Wasilla	653	46.4
Palmer	527	37.5
Big Lake	107	7.6
Willow	51	3.6
Talkeetna	60	4.3
Sutton	31	2.2
Trapper Creek	28	2.0
Total Valid	1457	
Missing	N/A	
Total	N/A	

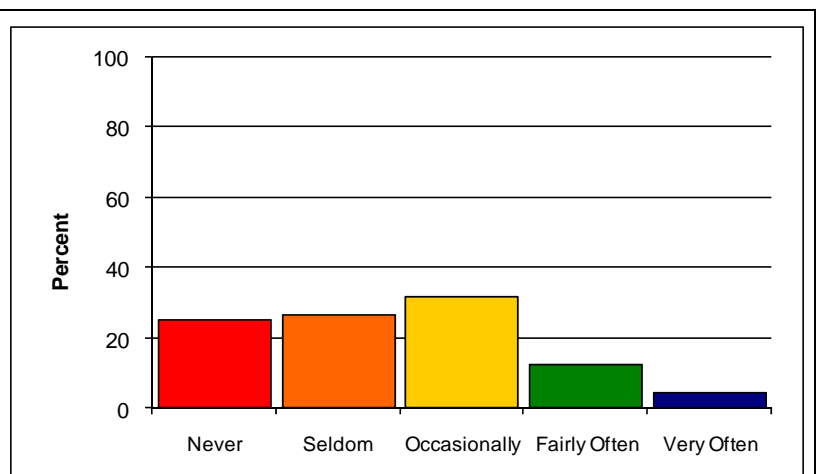


* Responses sum to more than 100% due to possibility of each respondent selecting multiple locations.
[†] Percentage of respondents who indicated they use that particular library.

Borough Recreational Facility Use Frequency

Average: 1.44

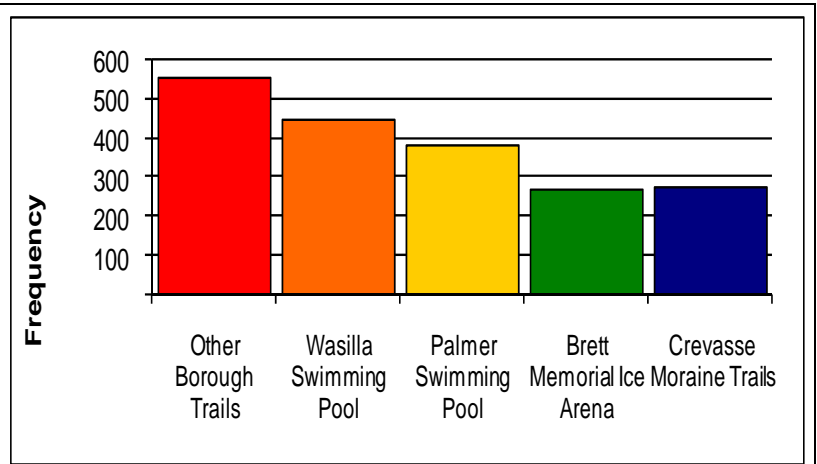
Response	Freq	%
Never	355	25.2
Seldom	366	26.0
Occasionally	442	31.4
Fairly Often	172	12.2
Very Often	63	4.5
Total Valid	1398	99.4
Missing	8	0.6
Total	1406	100.0



Part II: Use of Borough Facilities

Borough Recreational Facility Use Locations*

Response	Freq	% [†]
Other Borough Trails	567	40.3
Wasilla Swimming Pool	456	32.4
Palmer Swimming Pool	391	27.8
Brett Memorial Ice Arena	274	19.5
Crevasse Moraine Trails	277	19.7
Total Valid	1965	
Missing	N/A	
Total	N/A	

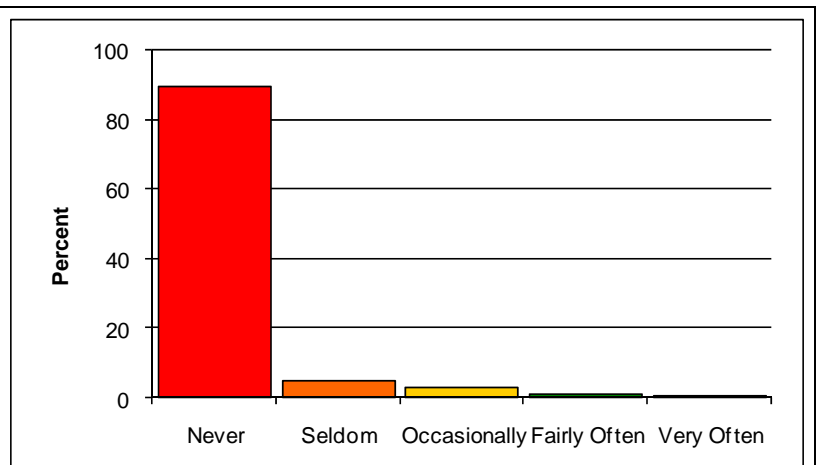


* Responses sum to more than 100% due to possibility of each respondent selecting multiple locations.
[†] Percentage of respondents who indicated they use that particular recreational facility.

MASCOT Use Frequency

Average: 0.15

Response	Freq	%
Never	1258	89.5
Seldom	63	4.5
Occasionally	45	3.2
Fairly Often	11	0.8
Very Often	7	0.5
Total Valid	1384	98.4
Missing	22	1.6
Total	1406	100.0

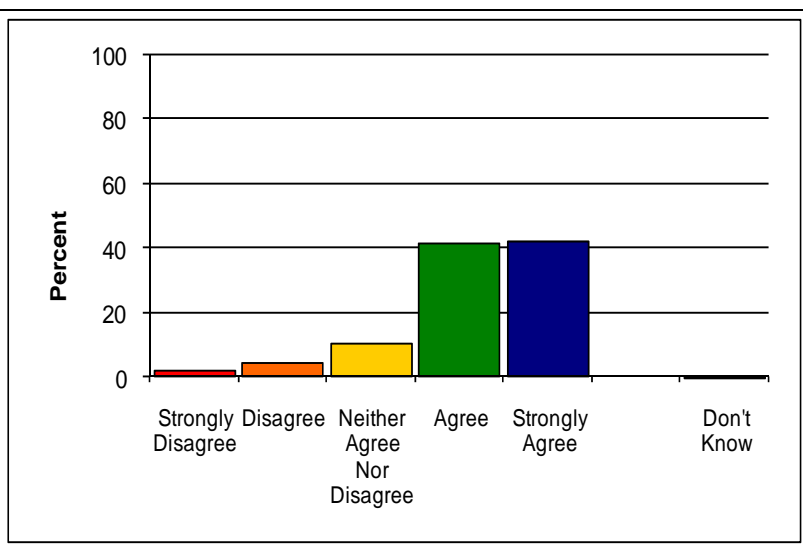


Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

Personally, I would rate my neighborhood as an excellent place to live.

Average: 3.29

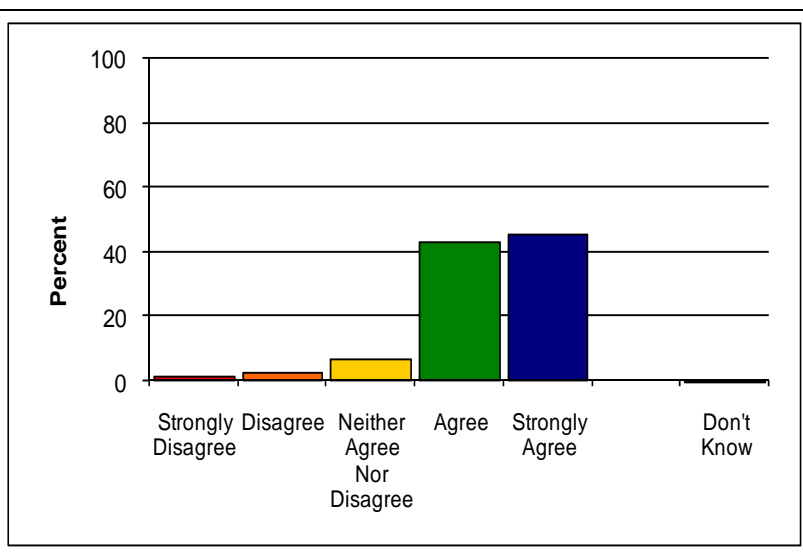
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	25	1.8
Disagree	57	4.1
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	149	10.6
Agree	579	41.2
Strongly Agree	583	41.5
Total Valid	1393	99.1
Don't Know	2	0.1
Missing	11	0.8
Total	1406	100.0



On the whole, I like this neighborhood as a place to live.

Average: 3.38

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	17	1.2
Disagree	38	2.7
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	91	6.5
Agree	602	42.8
Strongly Agree	636	45.2
Total Valid	1384	98.4
Don't Know	2	0.1
Missing	20	1.4
Total	1406	99.9

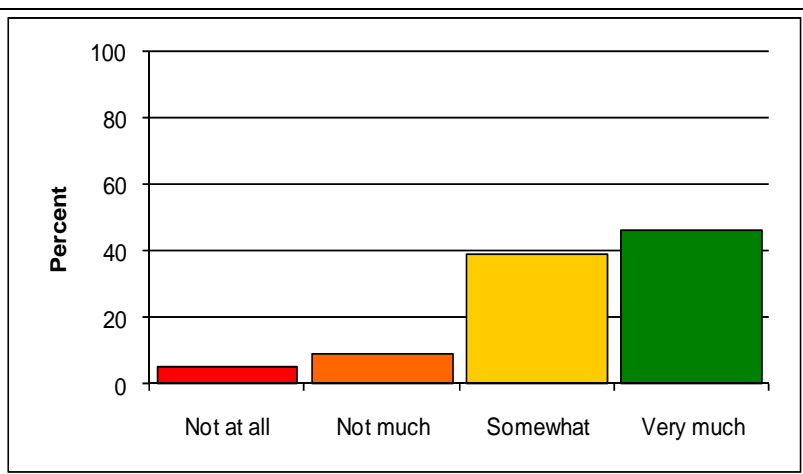


Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

*Suppose that for some reason you had to move away from this neighborhood,.
Would you miss the neighborhood very much, somewhat, not much or not at all?*

Average: 2.27

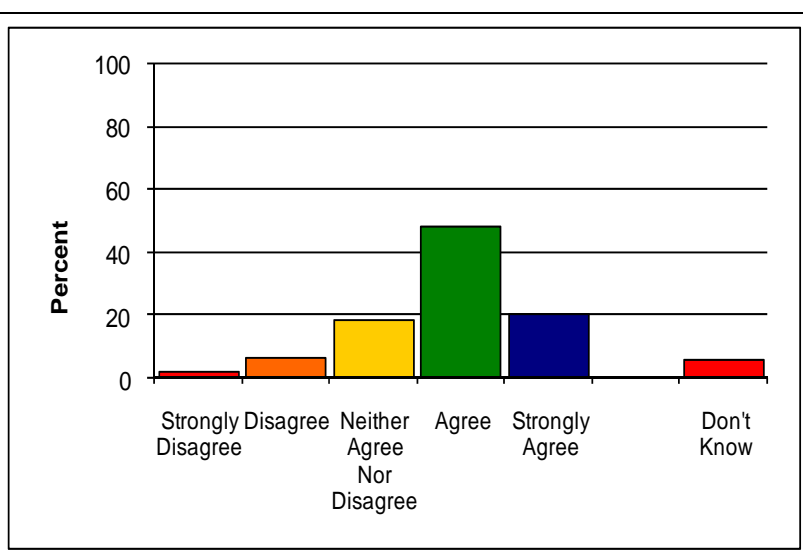
Response	Freq	%
Not at all	73	5.2
Not much	123	8.7
Somewhat	540	38.4
Very much	650	46.2
Total Valid	1386	98.6
Missing	20	1.4
Total	1406	100.0



People in my neighborhood can be trusted.

Average: 3.00

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	29	2.1
Disagree	87	6.2
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	259	18.4
Agree	663	47.2
Strongly Agree	280	19.9
Total Valid	1318	93.7
Don't Know	73	5.2
Missing	15	1.1
Total	1406	100.0

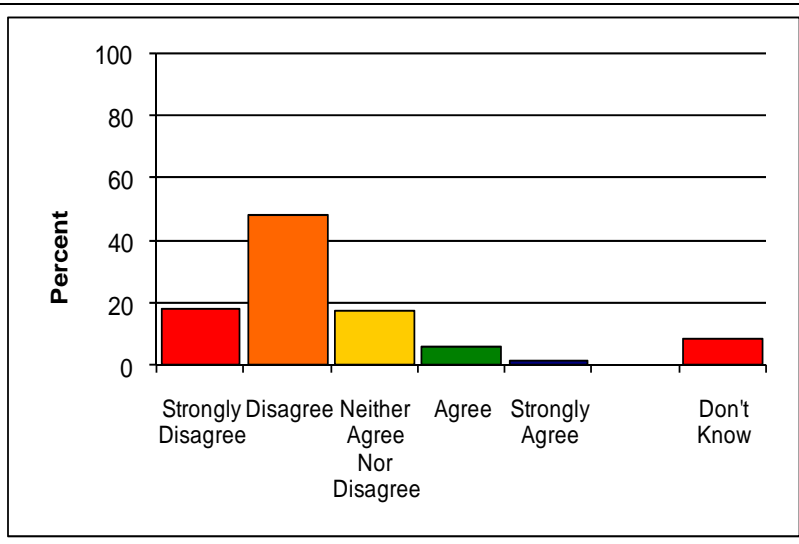


Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

People in my neighborhood generally do not get along with each other.

Average: 2.01

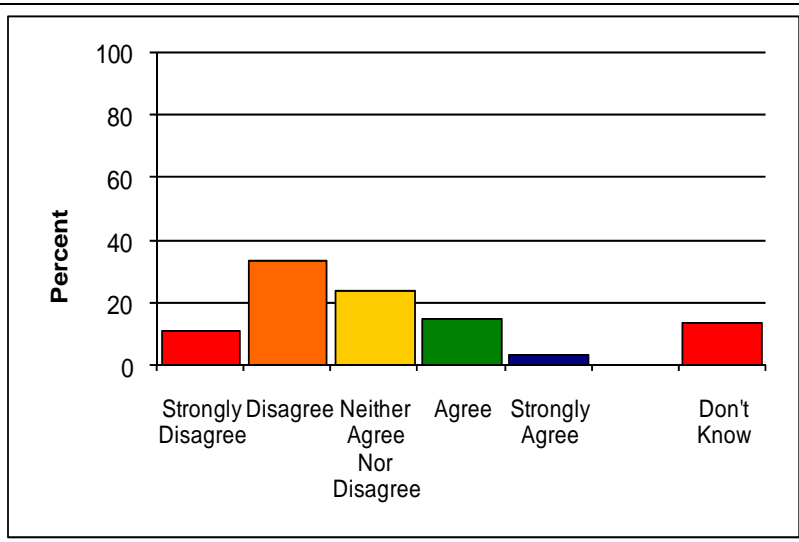
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	250	17.8
Disagree	663	47.2
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	250	17.8
Agree	85	6.0
Strongly Agree	23	1.6
Total Valid	1271	90.4
Don't Know	119	8.5
Missing	16	1.1
Total	1406	100.0



People in my neighborhood do not share the same values.

Average: 2.26

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	155	11.0
Disagree	461	32.8
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	334	23.8
Agree	209	14.9
Strongly Agree	48	3.4
Total Valid	1207	85.8
Don't Know	182	13.2
Missing	17	1.2
Total	1406	99.9

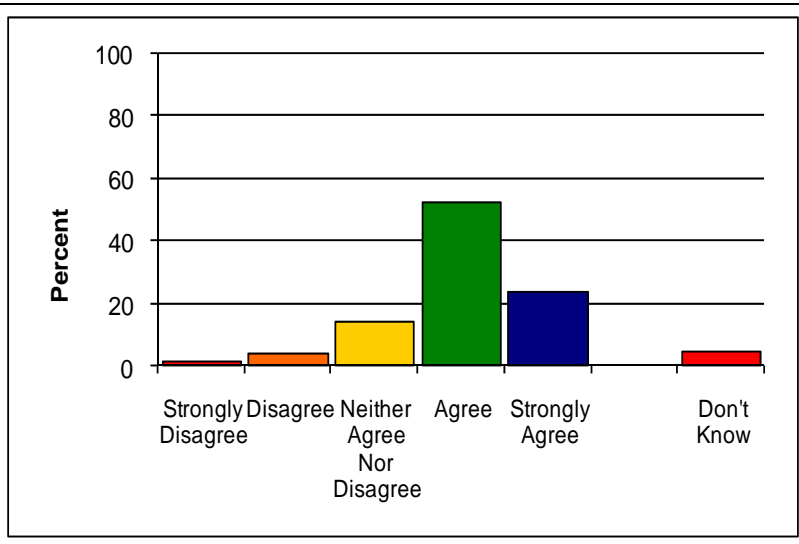


Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

People in my neighborhood are willing to help their neighbors.

Average: 3.10

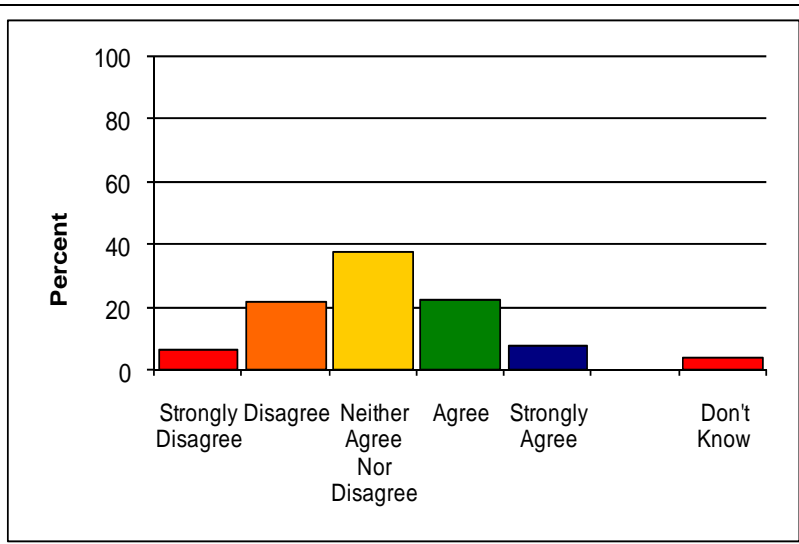
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	20	1.4
Disagree	57	4.1
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	195	13.9
Agree	721	51.3
Strongly Agree	327	23.3
Total Valid	1320	93.9
Don't Know	63	4.5
Missing	23	1.6
Total	1406	100.0



Mine is a close-knit neighborhood.

Average: 2.52

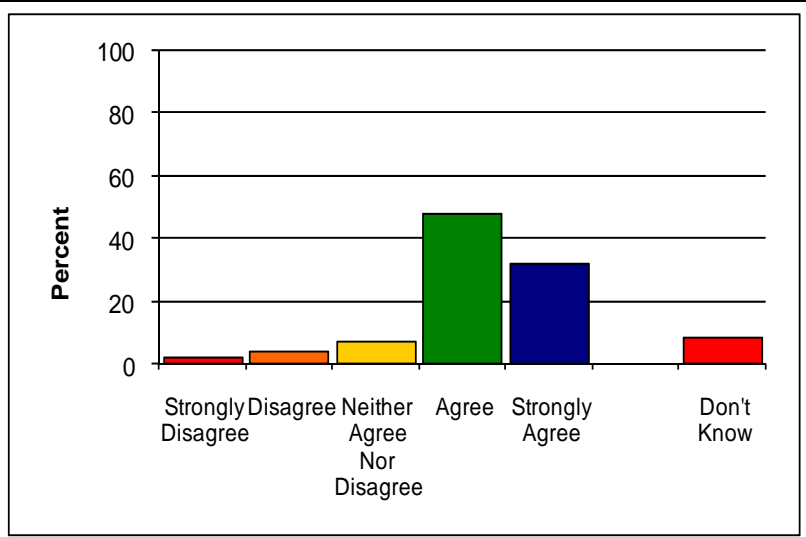
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	93	6.6
Disagree	300	21.3
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	520	37.3
Agree	315	22.4
Strongly Agree	107	7.6
Total Valid	1335	95.0
Don't Know	55	3.9
Missing	16	1.1
Total	1406	100.0



Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

One or more of my neighbors could be counted on to intervene if children were spray-painting graffiti on a local building. Average: 3.23

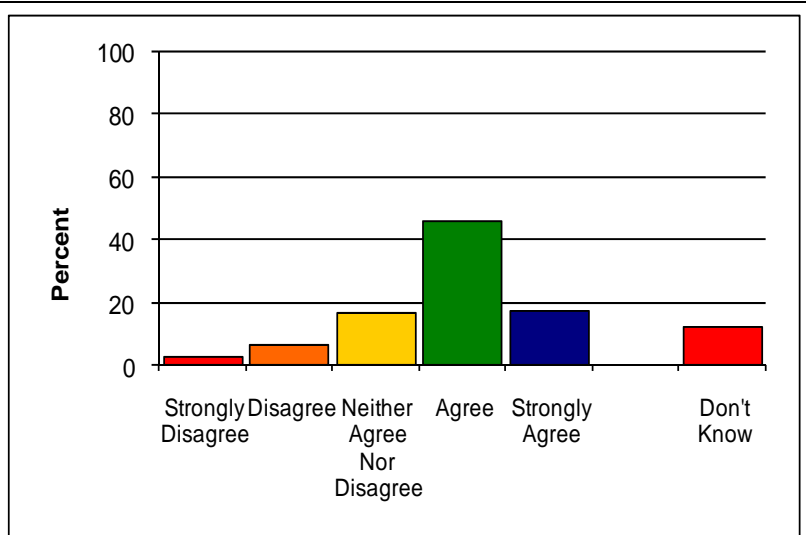
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	26	1.8
Disagree	54	3.8
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	94	6.7
Agree	664	47.2
Strongly Agree	441	31.4
Total Valid	1279	91.0
Don't Know	117	8.3
Missing	10	0.7
Total	1406	100.0



At least one of my neighbors would intervene if children were showing disrespect toward an adult.

Average: 2.98

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	37	2.6
Disagree	83	5.9
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	228	16.2
Agree	642	45.7
Strongly Agree	242	17.2
Total Valid	1232	87.6
Don't Know	164	11.7
Missing	10	0.7
Total	1406	100.0

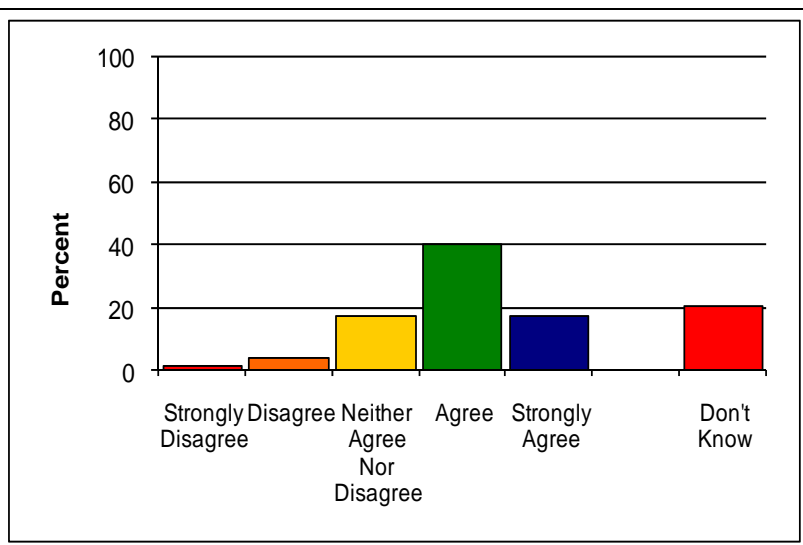


Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

At least one of my neighbors would intervene if the fire station closest to their home was threatened with budget cuts.

Average: 3.03

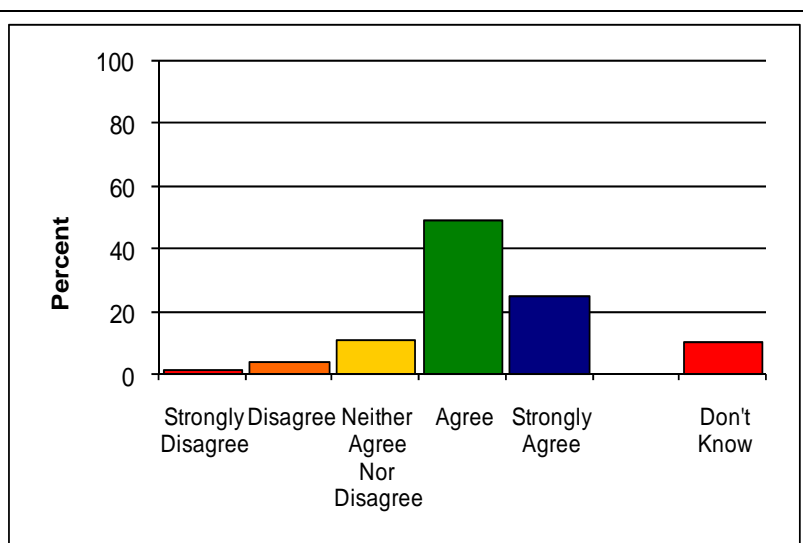
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	19	1.4
Disagree	52	3.7
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	239	17.0
Agree	555	39.5
Strongly Agree	245	17.4
Total Valid	1110	78.9
Don't Know	281	20.0
Missing	15	1.1
Total	1406	100.0



At least one of my neighbors would intervene if a fight broke out in front of their home.

Average: 3.14

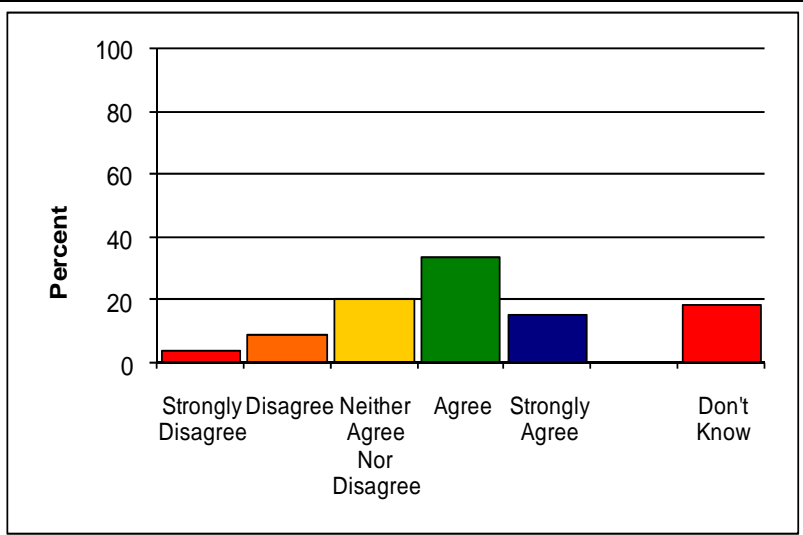
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	23	1.6
Disagree	50	3.7
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	147	10.5
Agree	685	48.7
Strongly Agree	344	24.5
Total Valid	1251	89.0
Don't Know	143	10.2
Missing	12	0.9
Total	1406	99.9



Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

At least one of my neighbors would intervene if children were showing skipping school and hanging out on a neighborhood street corner. Average: 2.86

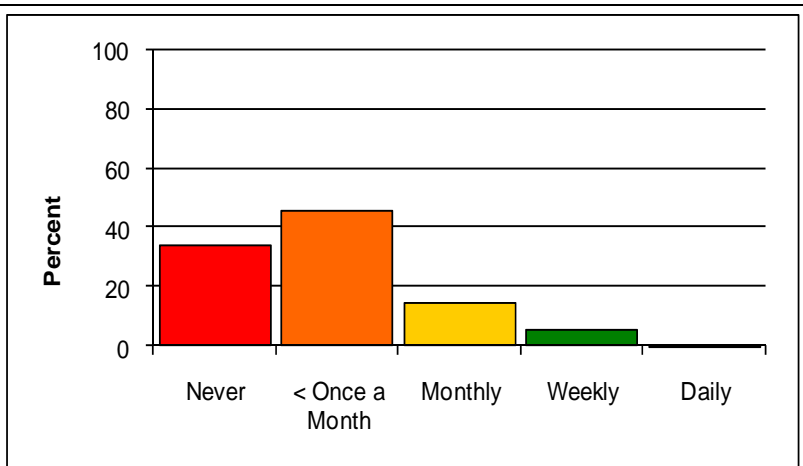
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	51	3.6
Disagree	124	8.8
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	288	20.5
Agree	470	33.4
Strongly Agree	205	14.6
Total Valid	1138	80.9
Don't Know	256	18.2
Missing	12	0.9
Total	1406	100.0



How often do you borrow something from or loan something to a neighbor?

Average: 0.93

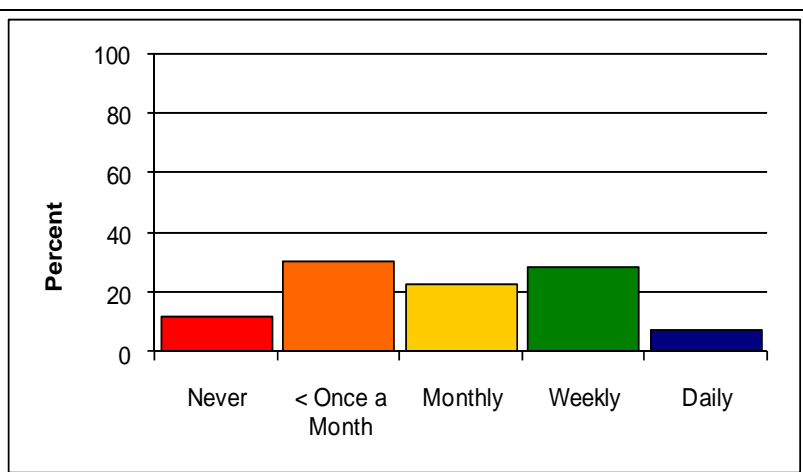
Response	Freq	%
Never	472	33.6
< Once a Month	637	45.3
Monthly	205	14.6
Weekly	72	5.1
Daily	8	0.6
Total Valid	1394	99.1
Missing	12	0.9
Total	1406	100.0



Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

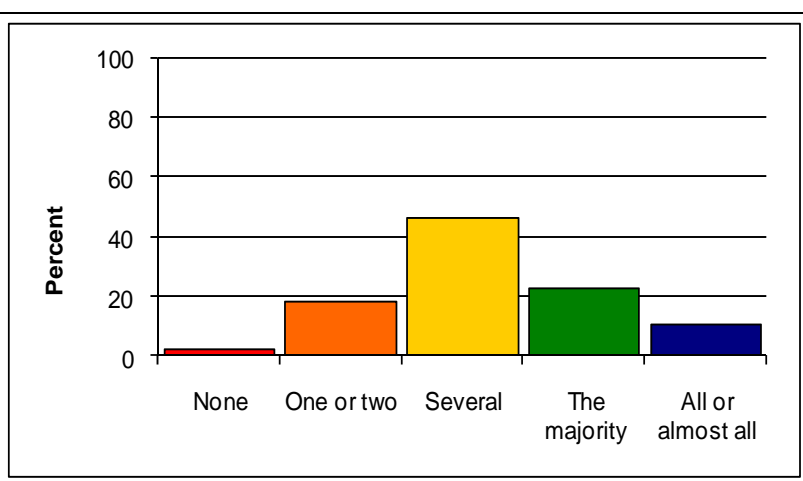
How often do you visit with a neighbor, out in the neighborhood or in one of your homes? Average: 1.89

Response	Freq	%
Never	159	11.3
< Once a Month	423	30.1
Monthly	316	22.5
Weekly	388	27.6
Daily	101	7.2
Total Valid	1387	98.6
Missing	19	1.4
Total	1406	100.0



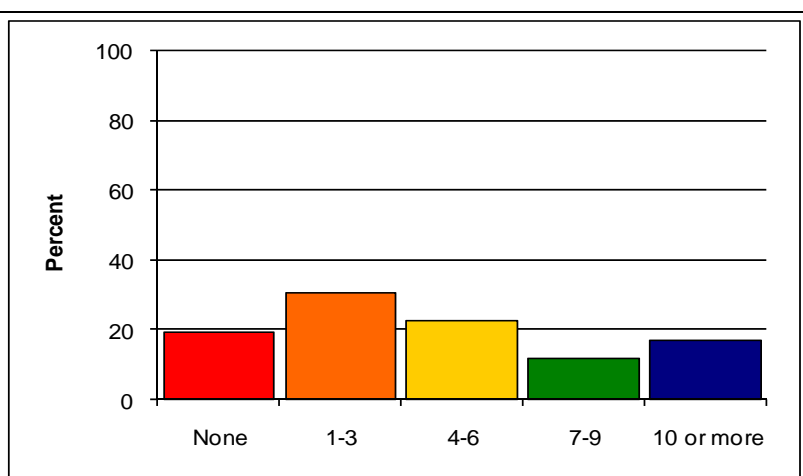
How many of your neighbors would you say that you know by sight or by name? Average: 2.21

Response	Freq	%
None	30	2.1
One or two	257	18.3
Several	647	46.0
The majority	314	22.3
All or almost all	150	10.7
Total Valid	1398	99.4
Missing	8	0.6
Total	1406	100.0



Not counting those who live with you, how many friends and relatives do you have in your neighborhood? Average: 1.77

Response	Freq	%
None	267	19.0
1-3	421	29.9
4-6	313	22.3
7-9	161	11.5
10 or more	234	16.6
Total Valid	1396	99.3
Missing	10	0.7
Total	1406	100.0



Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

Neighborhood Conditions*

Response	Freq	% [†]	
Poor lighting	857	61.0	
Empty lots	737	52.4	
Overgrown shrubs or trees	598	42.5	
Abandoned cars and/or buildings	537	38.2	
Rundown or neglected buildings	507	36.1	
Trash in the streets	236	16.8	
Vandalism or graffiti	198	14.1	
Public drinking/drug use	158	11.2	
Loitering/hanging out	141	10.0	
Truancy/skipping school	121	8.6	
Public drug sales	103	7.3	
Transients/homeless sleeping	43	3.1	
Panhandling/begging	38	2.7	
Prostitution	21	1.5	
Total Valid	4295		
Missing	N/A		
Total	N/A		

Percent

* Responses sum to more than 100% due to possibility of each respondent selecting multiple neighborhood conditions.

[†] Percentage of respondents who indicated that particular condition exists in their neighborhood.

To what extent are you fearful that you or members of your household will be the victim of burglary (while you or your loved ones are at home)? Average: 0.79

Response	Freq	%	
Not at all	558	39.7	
A little	620	44.1	
Moderately	160	11.4	
A lot	56	4.0	
Total Valid	1394	99.1	
Missing	12	0.9	
Total	1406	100.0	

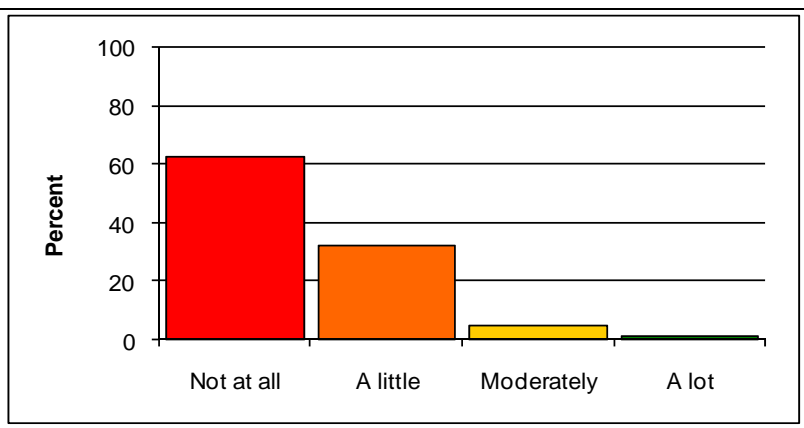
Percent

Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

To what extent are you fearful that you or members of your household will be the victim of a sexual assault?

Average: 0.45

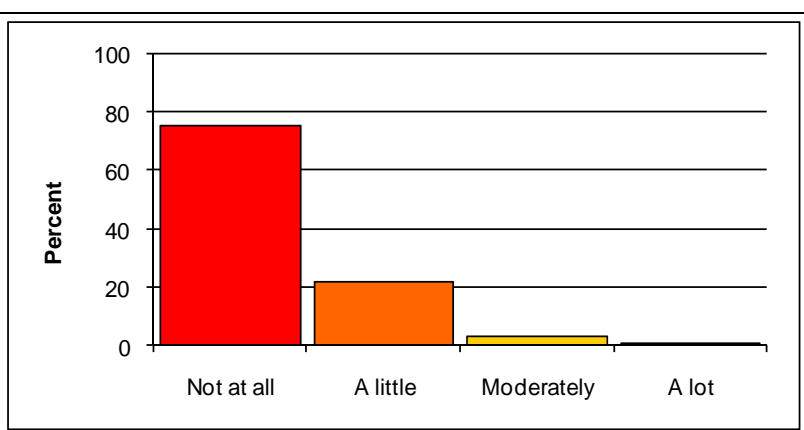
Response	Freq	%
Not at all	867	61.7
A little	444	31.6
Moderately	69	4.9
A lot	13	0.9
Total Valid	1393	99.1
Missing	13	0.9
Total	1406	100.0



To what extent are you fearful that you or members of your household will be the victim of a murder?

Average: 0.29

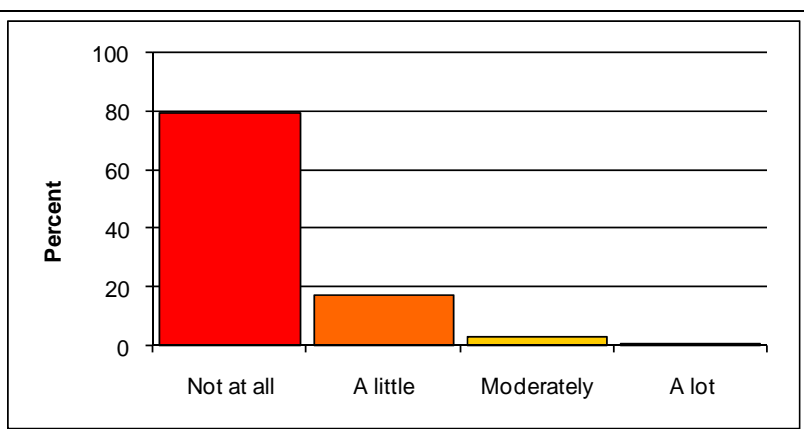
Response	Freq	%
Not at all	1043	74.2
A little	301	21.4
Moderately	42	3.0
A lot	5	0.4
Total Valid	1391	98.9
Missing	15	1.1
Total	1406	100.0



To what extent are you fearful that you or members of your household will be the victim of a kidnapping?

Average: 0.26

Response	Freq	%
Not at all	1097	78.0
A little	244	17.4
Moderately	41	2.9
A lot	11	0.8
Total Valid	1393	99.1
Missing	13	0.9
Total	1406	100.0

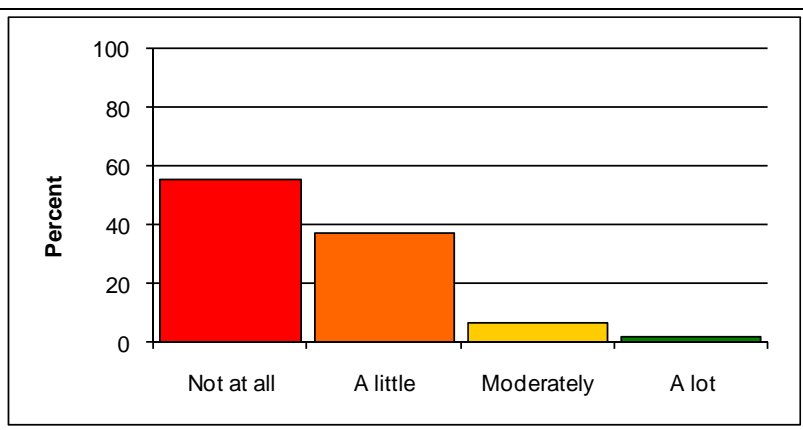


Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

To what extent are you fearful that you or members of your household will be attacked with a weapon?

Average: 0.55

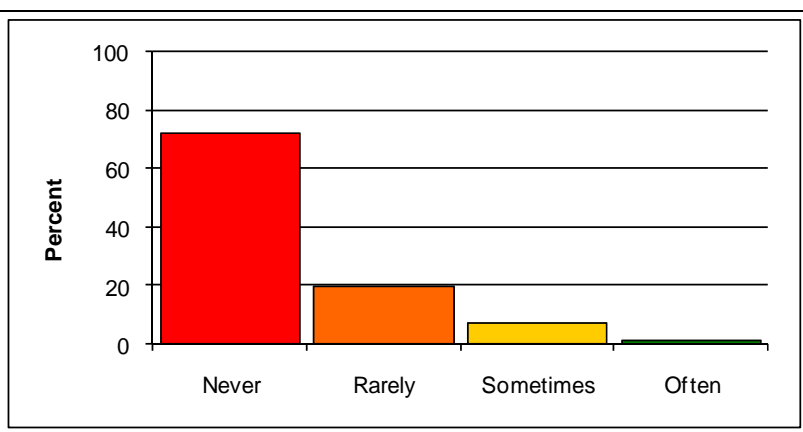
Response	Freq	%
Not at all	766	54.5
A little	512	36.4
Moderately	90	6.4
A lot	25	1.8
Total Valid	1393	99.1
Missing	13	.9
Total	1406	100.0



How often does worry about crime prevent you from doing things you would like to do in your neighborhood?

Average: 0.38

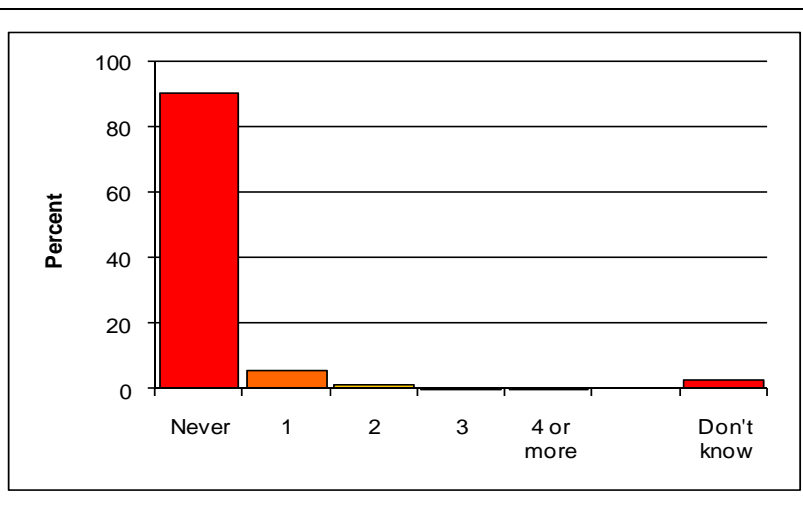
Response	Freq	%
Never	1000	71.1
Rarely	274	19.5
Sometimes	98	7.0
Often	21	1.5
Total Valid	1393	99.1
Missing	13	0.9
Total	1406	100.0



In the past six months in your neighborhood, how often has there been a fight in which a weapon was used?

Average: 0.11

Response	Freq	%
Never	1227	87.3
Once	78	5.5
Twice	15	1.1
Three times	5	0.4
Four or more times	6	0.4
Total Valid	1331	94.7
Don't know	38	2.7
Missing	37	2.6
Total	1406	100.0

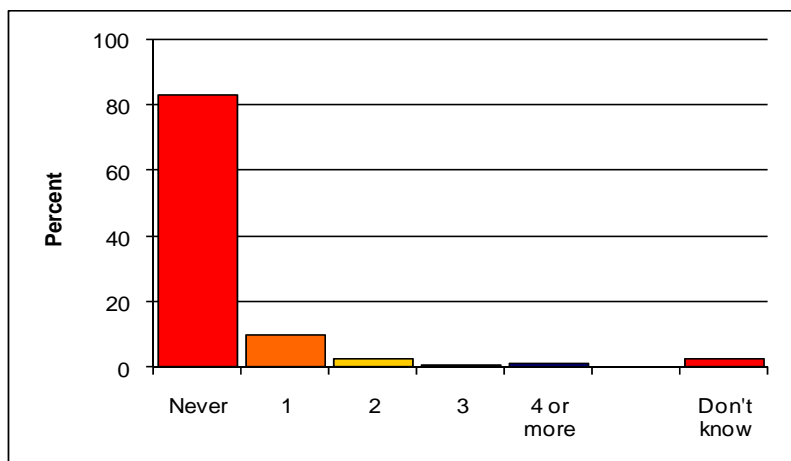


Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

In the past six months in your neighborhood, how often has there been a violent argument between neighbors?

Average: 0.23

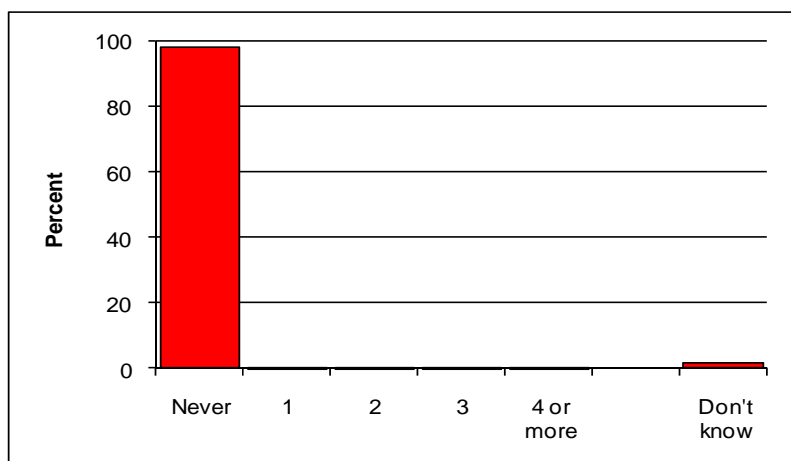
Response	Freq	%
Never	1133	80.6
Once	133	9.5
Twice	38	2.7
Three times	11	0.8
Four or more times	16	1.1
Total Valid	1331	94.7
Don't know	37	2.6
Missing	38	2.7
Total	1406	100.0



In the past six months in your neighborhood, how often has there been a gang fight?

Average: 0.01

Response	Freq	%
Never	1346	95.7
Once	3	0.2
Twice	4	0.3
Three times	1	0.1
Four or more times	1	0.1
Total Valid	1355	96.4
Don't know	23	1.6
Missing	28	2.0
Total	1406	100.0

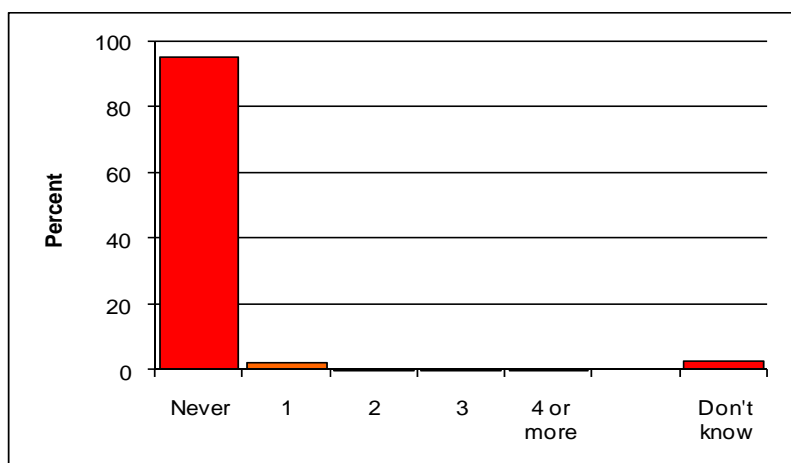


Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

In the past six months in your neighborhood, how often has there been a sexual assault or rape?

Average: 0.04

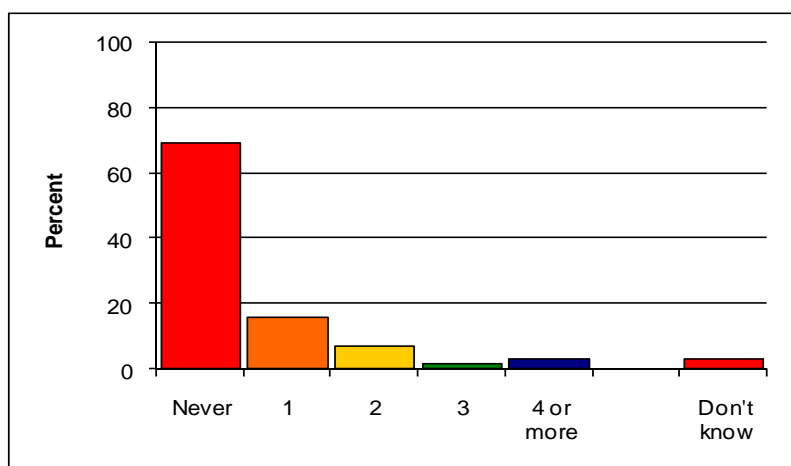
Response	Freq	%
Never	1291	91.8
Once	28	2.0
Twice	4	0.3
Three times	3	0.2
Four or more times	1	0.1
Total Valid	1327	94.4
Don't know	37	2.6
Missing	42	3.0
Total	1406	100.0



In the past six months in your neighborhood, how often has there been a robbery, burglary, or mugging?

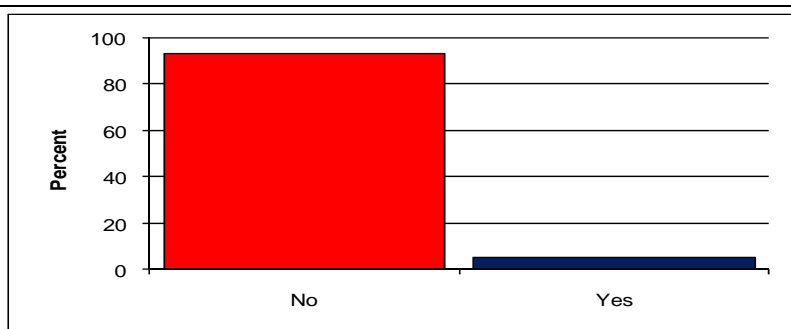
Average: 0.51

Response	Freq	%
Never	933	66.4
Once	215	15.3
Twice	99	7.0
Three times	25	1.8
Four or more times	46	3.3
Total Valid	1318	93.7
Don't know	43	3.1
Missing	45	3.2
Total	1406	100.0



While you have lived in this neighborhood, has anyone ever used violence, such as a mugging, fight, or sexual assault, against you or any member of your household anywhere in your neighborhood?

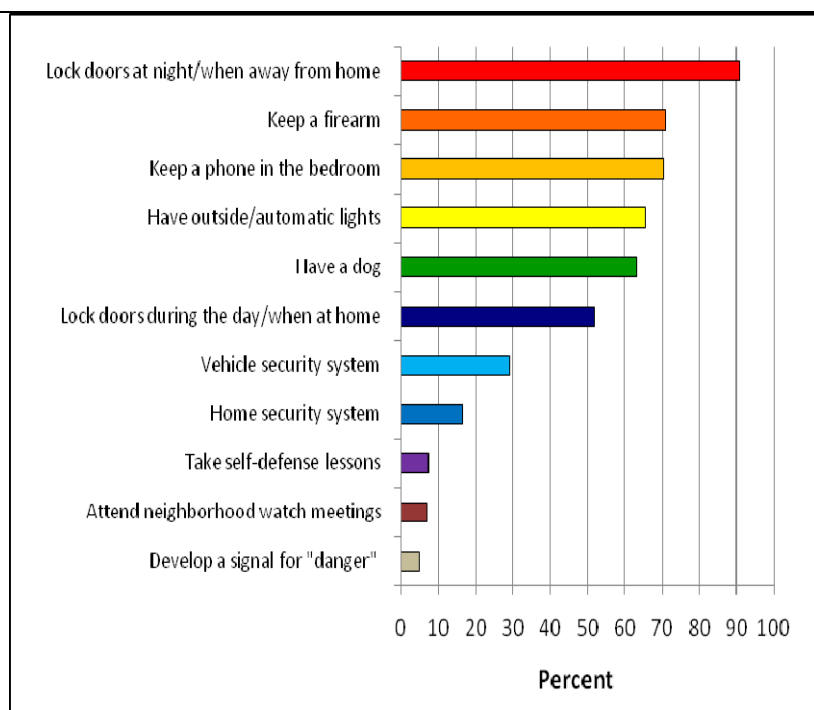
Response	Freq	%
No	1306	92.9
Yes	74	5.3
Total Valid	1380	98.2
Missing	26	1.8
Total	1406	100.0



Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

Self-protection Activities*

Response	Freq	% [†]
Lock doors at night/ when away from home	1277	90.8
Keep a firearm	999	71.1
Keep a phone in the bedroom	991	70.5
Have outside/automatic lights	923	65.6
Have a dog	886	63.1
Lock doors during the day/ when at home	735	52.3
Vehicle security system	407	28.9
Home security system	236	16.8
Take self-defense lessons	108	7.7
Attend neighborhood watch meetings	98	7.0
Develop a signal for "danger"	69	4.9
Total Valid	6729	
Missing	N/A	
Total	N/A	



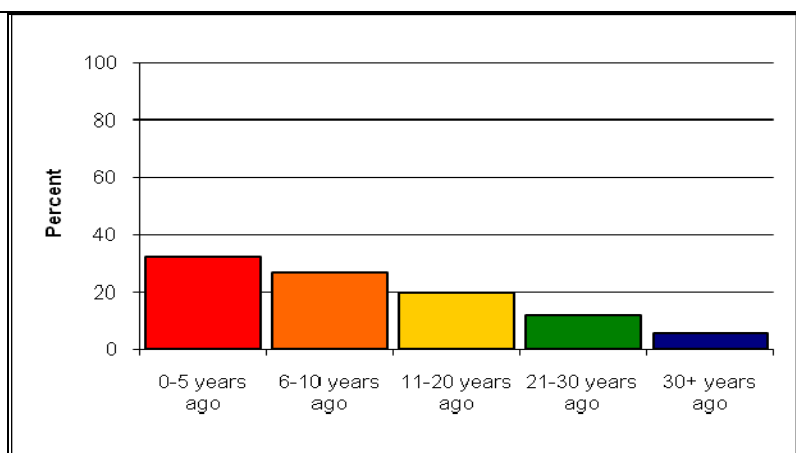
* Responses sum to more than 100% due to possibility of each respondent selecting multiple self-protection activities.

[†] Percentage of respondents who indicated they engage in the particular self-protection activity.

When did you move to your current home?

Average: 11 Years Ago

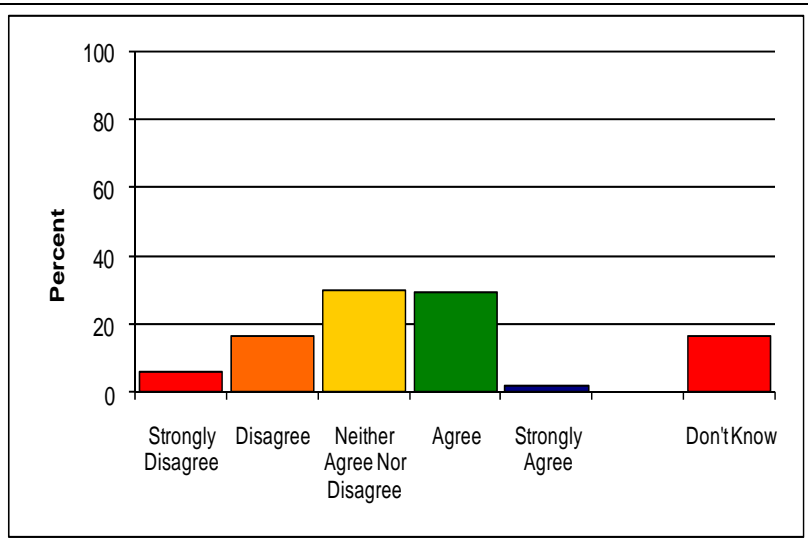
Response	Freq	%
0-5 years ago	456	32.3
6-10 years ago	375	26.7
11-20 years ago	283	20.1
21-30 years ago	167	11.9
30+ years ago	83	5.9
Total Valid	1364	97.0
Missing	42	3.0
Total	1406	100.0



Part IV: Local Government: Access, Policies, and Practices

Overall, I am satisfied with the opportunities the Borough provides to give input on decisions. Average: 2.50

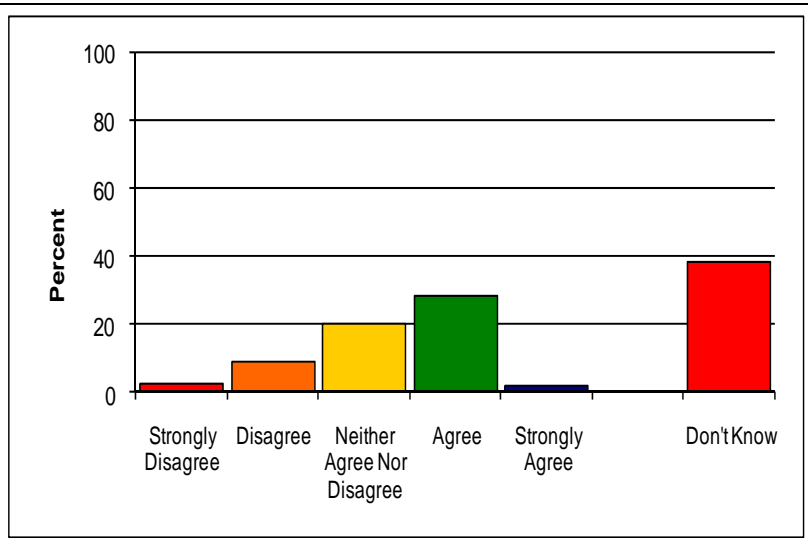
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	88	6.3
Disagree	228	16.2
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	412	29.3
Agree	402	28.6
Strongly Agree	29	2.1
Total Valid	1159	82.4
Don't Know	233	16.6
Missing	14	1.0
Total	1406	100.0



I find the Borough's website easy to use.

Average: 2.64

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	34	2.4
Disagree	128	9.1
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	282	20.1
Agree	389	27.7
Strongly Agree	27	1.9
Total Valid	860	61.2
Don't Know	525	37.3
Missing	21	1.5
Total	1406	100.0

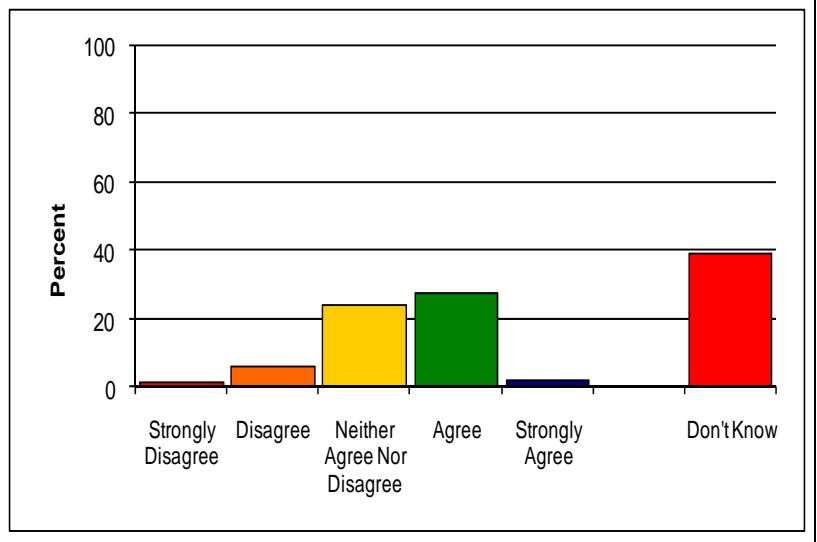


Part IV: Local Government: Access, Policies, and Practices

I would describe the Borough's website as "informative."

Average: 2.69

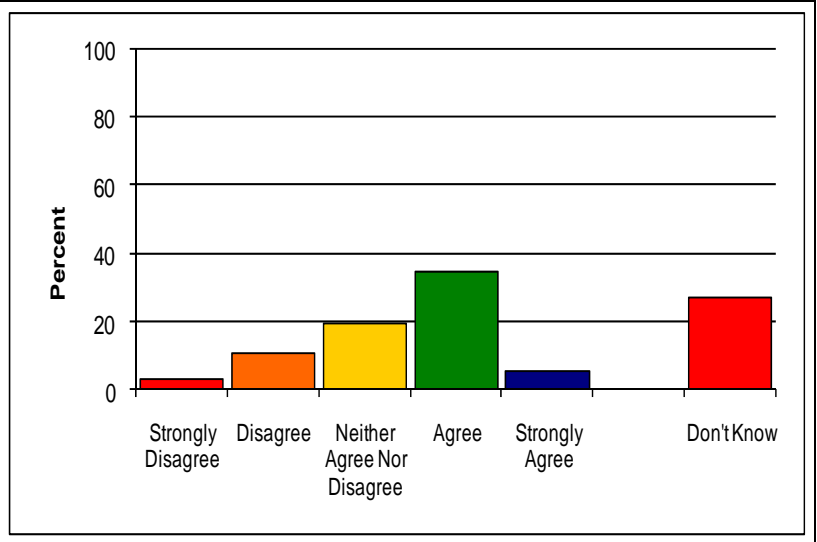
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	21	1.5
Disagree	86	6.1
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	333	23.7
Agree	379	27.0
Strongly Agree	28	2.0
Total Valid	847	60.2
Don't Know	534	38.0
Missing	25	1.8
Total	1406	100.0



When I call the Borough, I usually get the information I need in a timely manner.

Average: 2.71

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	42	3.0
Disagree	151	10.7
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	276	19.6
Agree	479	34.1
Strongly Agree	75	5.3
Total Valid	1023	72.8
Don't Know	372	26.5
Missing	11	0.8
Total	1406	100.0

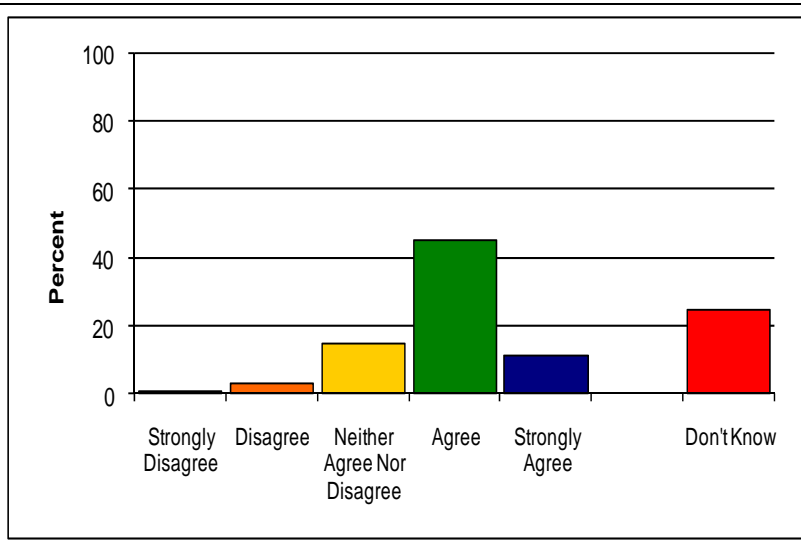


Part IV: Local Government: Access, Policies, and Practices

When I call the Borough, the person I speak with is usually polite and professional.

Average: 2.98

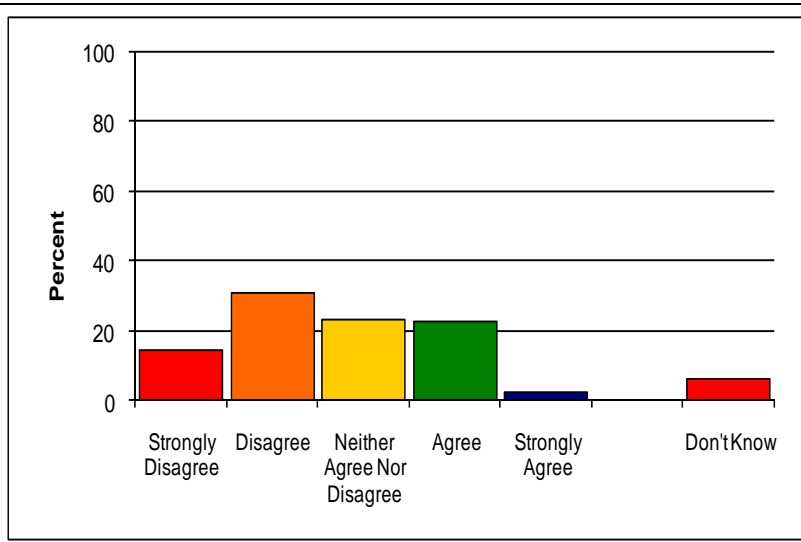
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	17	1.2
Disagree	39	2.8
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	211	15.0
Agree	625	44.5
Strongly Agree	157	11.2
Total Valid	1049	74.7
Don't Know	340	24.2
Missing	17	1.2
Total	1406	100.1



I feel I am getting my money's worth for the taxes I pay to the Mat-Su Borough.

Average: 2.26

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	203	14.4
Disagree	420	29.9
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	320	22.8
Agree	310	22.0
Strongly Agree	36	2.6
Total Valid	1289	91.7
Don't Know	88	6.3
Missing	29	2.1
Total	1406	100.1

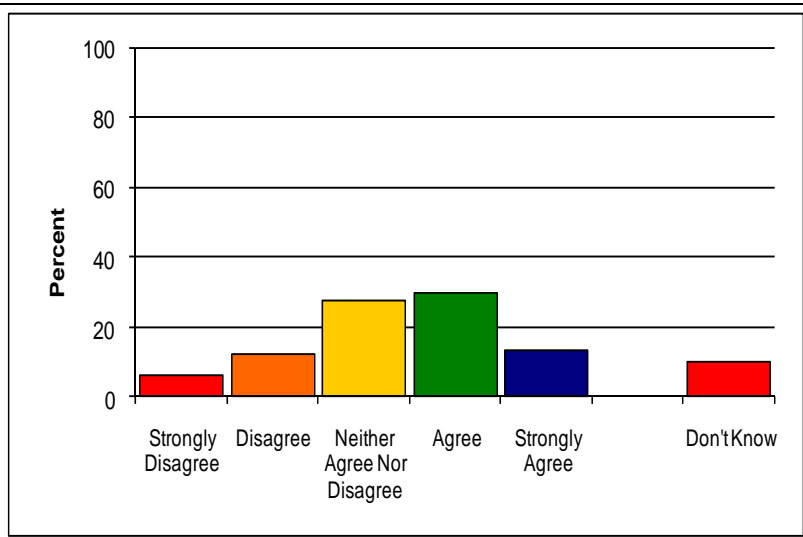


Part IV: Local Government: Access, Policies, and Practices

Funds should be spent to preserve open spaces in the Borough.

Average: 2.71

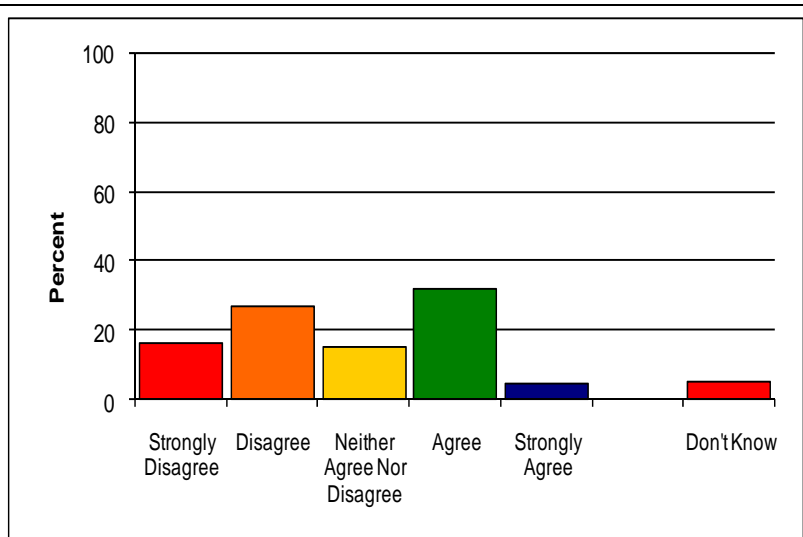
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	88	6.3
Disagree	172	12.2
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	382	27.2
Agree	408	29.0
Strongly Agree	186	13.2
Total Valid	1236	87.9
Don't Know	139	9.9
Missing	31	2.2
Total	1406	100.0



The current level of road maintenance in my area is worth what I pay in road service area taxes.

Average: 2.34

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	225	16.0
Disagree	370	26.3
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	210	14.9
Agree	438	31.2
Strongly Agree	63	4.5
Total Valid	1306	92.9
Don't Know	74	5.3
Missing	26	1.8
Total	1406	100.0

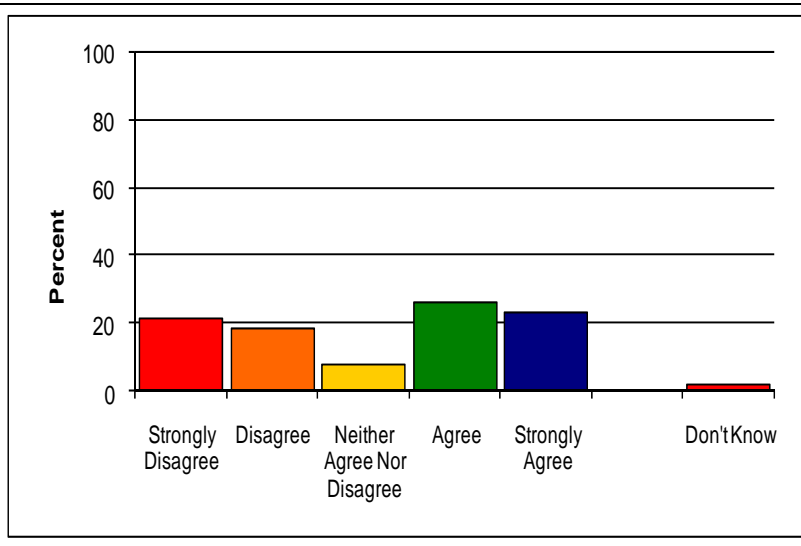


Part IV: Local Government: Access, Policies, and Practices

I would support an increase in the tobacco tax to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.56

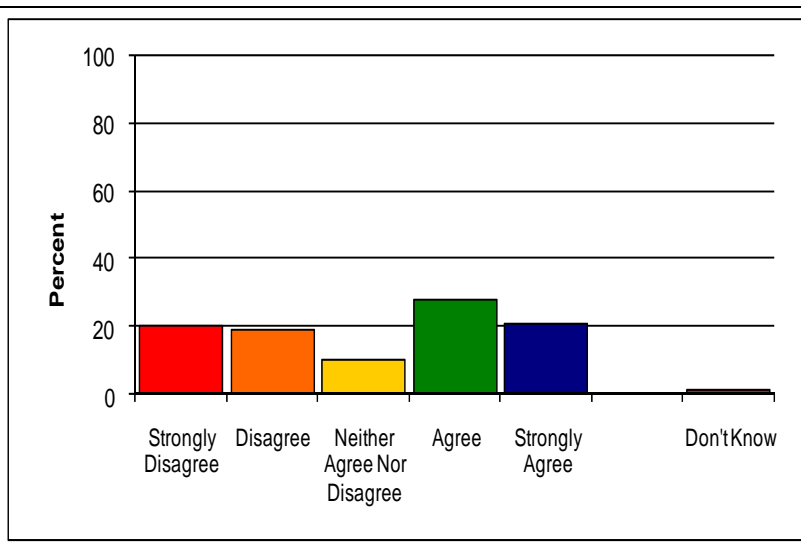
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	303	21.6
Disagree	258	18.3
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	114	8.1
Agree	362	25.7
Strongly Agree	325	23.1
Total Valid	1362	96.9
Don't Know	28	2.0
Missing	16	1.1
Total	1406	100.0



I would support a local tax on alcoholic beverages to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.55

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	281	20.0
Disagree	268	19.1
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	142	10.1
Agree	392	27.9
Strongly Agree	287	20.4
Total Valid	1370	97.4
Don't Know	23	1.6
Missing	13	0.9
Total	1406	99.9

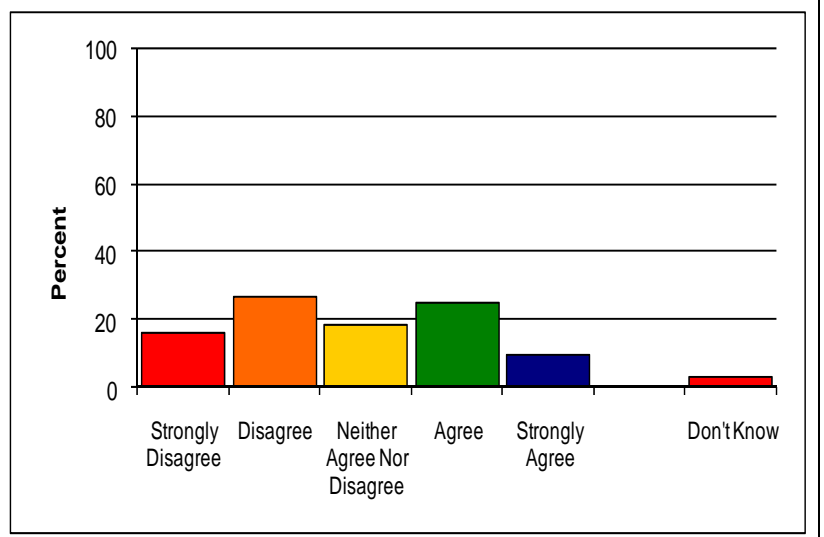


Part IV: Local Government: Access, Policies, and Practices

I would support an increase in the bed tax (charged at hotels) to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.39

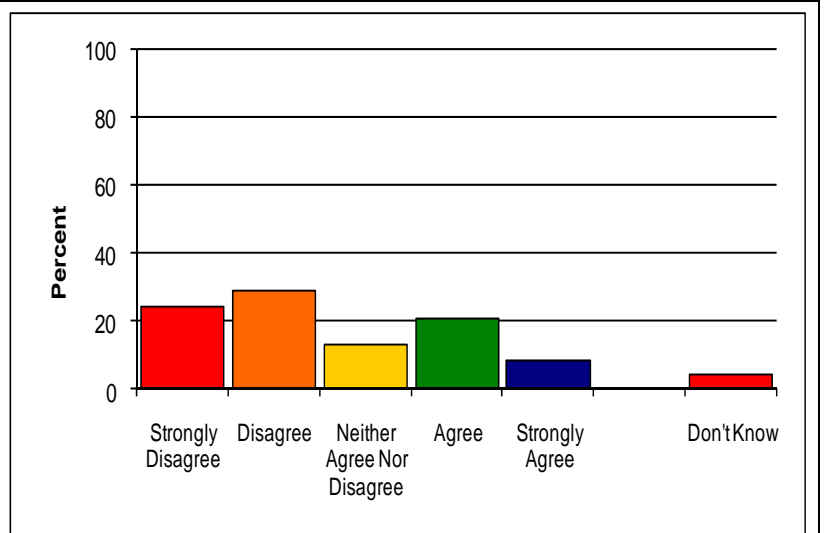
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	229	16.3
Disagree	371	26.4
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	260	18.5
Agree	348	24.8
Strongly Agree	136	9.7
Total Valid	1344	95.6
Don't Know	47	3.3
Missing	15	1.1
Total	1406	100.0



I would support a seasonal sales tax to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.21

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	336	23.9
Disagree	398	28.3
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	182	12.9
Agree	285	20.3
Strongly Agree	119	8.5
Total Valid	1320	93.9
Don't Know	60	4.3
Missing	26	1.8
Total	1406	100.0

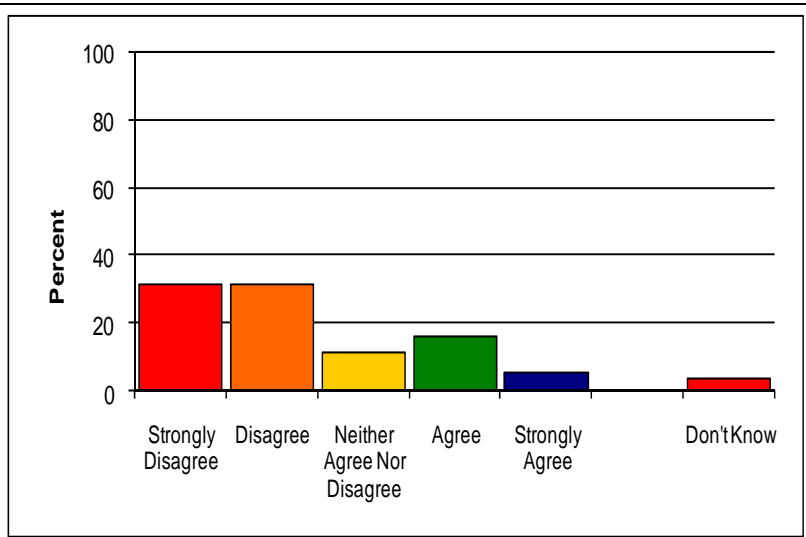


Part IV: Local Government: Access, Policies, and Practices

I would support a year-round sales tax to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.02

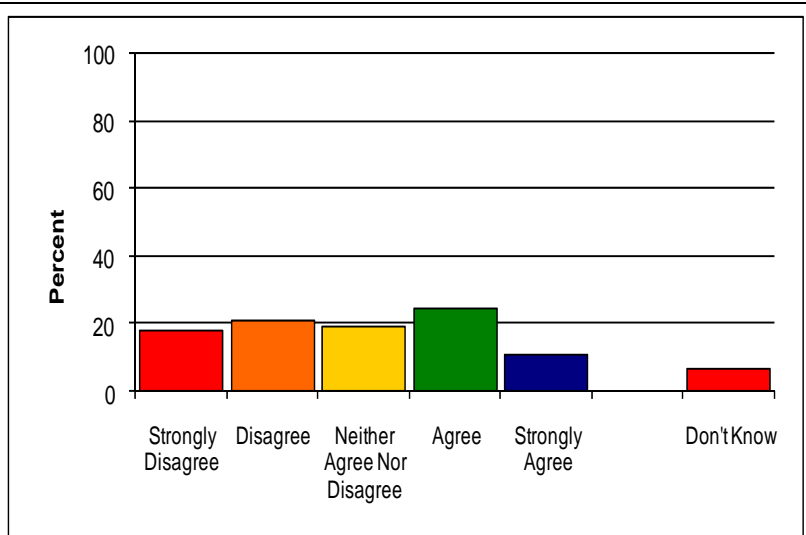
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	437	31.1
Disagree	435	30.9
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	163	11.6
Agree	223	15.9
Strongly Agree	78	5.5
Total Valid	1336	95.0
Don't Know	50	3.6
Missing	20	1.4
Total	1406	100.0



I would support imposing an impact fee on developers for residential and commercial properties to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.40

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	253	18.0
Disagree	290	20.6
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	262	18.6
Agree	338	24.0
Strongly Agree	147	10.5
Total Valid	1290	91.7
Don't Know	95	6.8
Missing	21	1.5
Total	1406	100.0

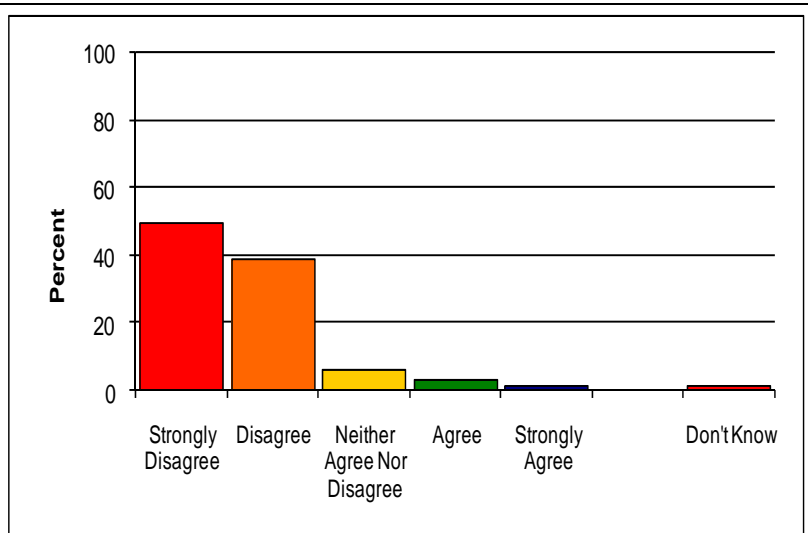


Part IV: Local Government: Access, Policies, and Practices

I would support a local tax on gasoline to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 1.59

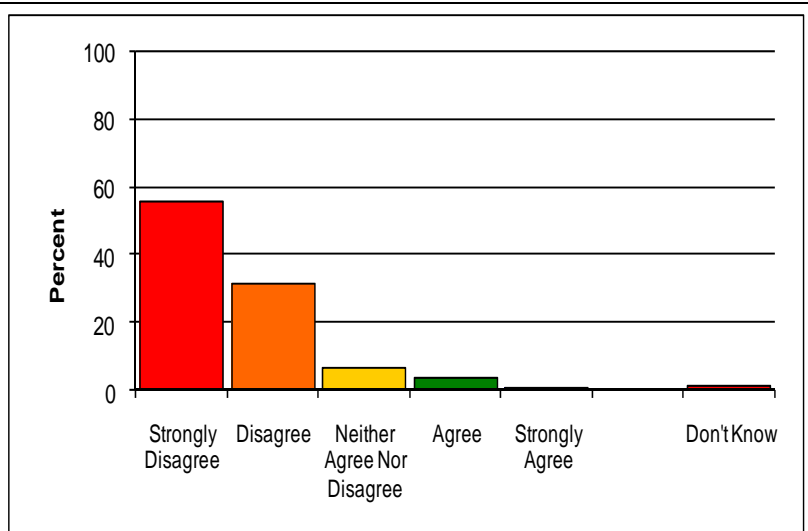
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	684	48.6
Disagree	533	37.9
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	84	6.0
Agree	49	3.5
Strongly Agree	18	1.3
Total Valid	1368	97.3
Don't Know	21	1.5
Missing	17	1.2
Total	1406	100.0



I would support increased property taxes to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 1.53

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	768	54.6
Disagree	432	30.7
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	97	6.9
Agree	53	3.8
Strongly Agree	15	1.1
Total Valid	1365	97.1
Don't Know	24	1.7
Missing	17	1.2
Total	1406	100.0

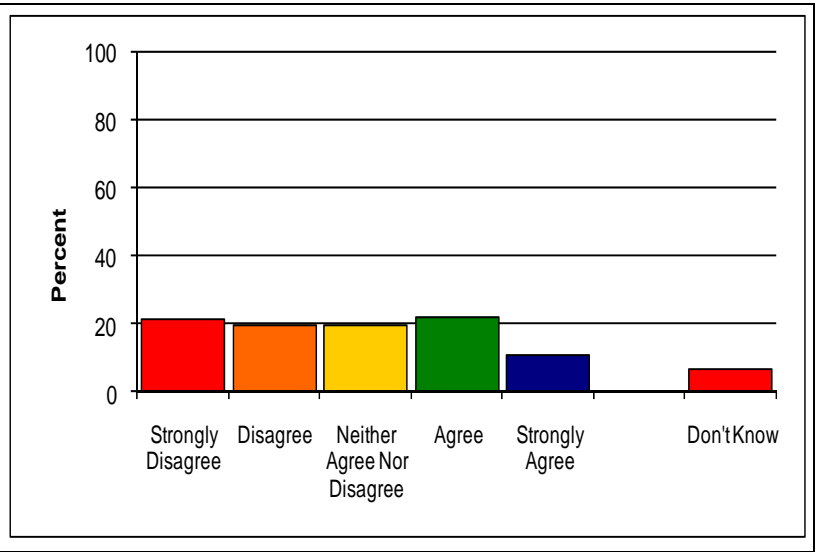


Part IV: Local Government: Access, Policies, and Practices

I would support a gravel extraction tax to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.34

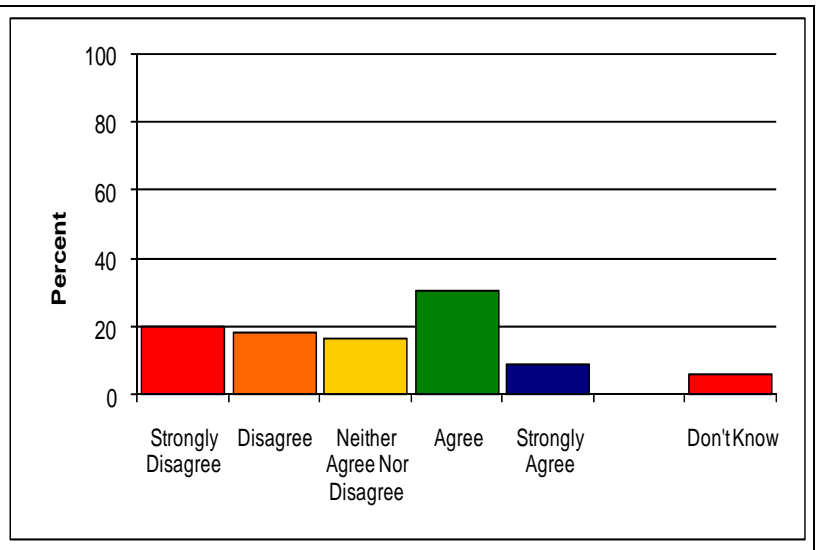
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	296	21.1
Disagree	270	19.2
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	272	19.3
Agree	301	21.4
Strongly Agree	147	10.5
Total Valid	1286	91.5
Don't Know	97	6.9
Missing	23	1.6
Total	1406	100.0



I would support a real estate transfer fee of \$25 to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.38

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	283	20.1
Disagree	252	17.9
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	225	16.0
Agree	425	30.2
Strongly Agree	121	8.6
Total Valid	1306	92.9
Don't Know	85	6.0
Missing	15	1.1
Total	1406	100.0

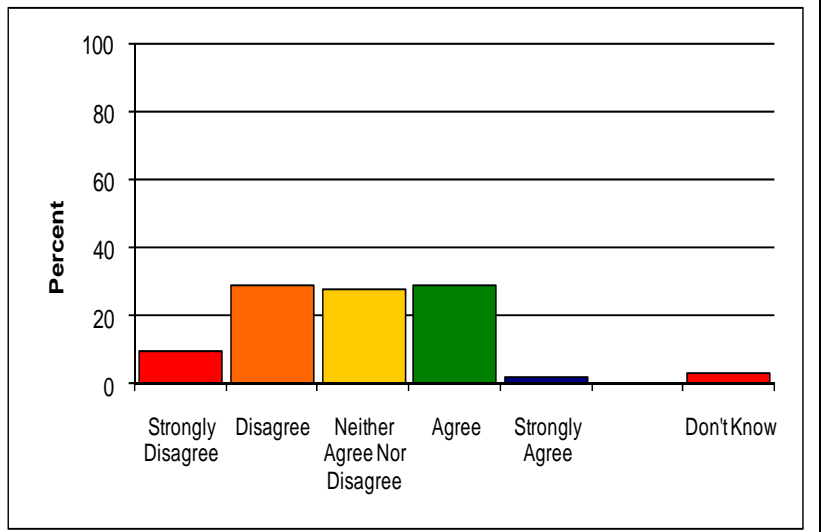


Part IV: Local Government: Access, Policies, and Practices

As of today, I am satisfied with the way the Mat-Su Borough has been developed.

Average: 2.38

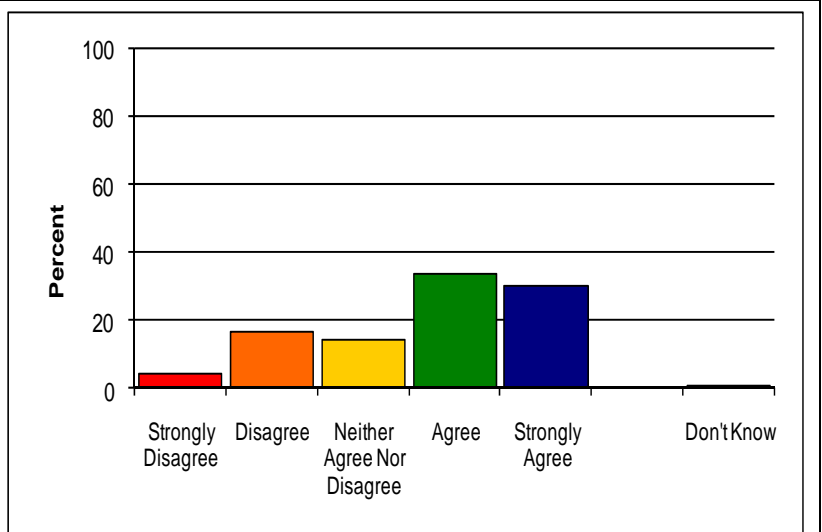
Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	136	9.7
Disagree	402	28.6
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	383	27.2
Agree	401	28.5
Strongly Agree	30	2.1
Total Valid	1352	96.2
Don't Know	42	3.0
Missing	12	0.9
Total	1406	100.1



Traffic congestion is a serious problem in the Mat-Su Borough.

Average: 2.97

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	59	4.2
Disagree	235	16.7
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	202	14.4
Agree	469	33.4
Strongly Agree	415	29.5
Total Valid	1380	98.2
Don't Know	14	1.0
Missing	12	0.9
Total	1406	100.1

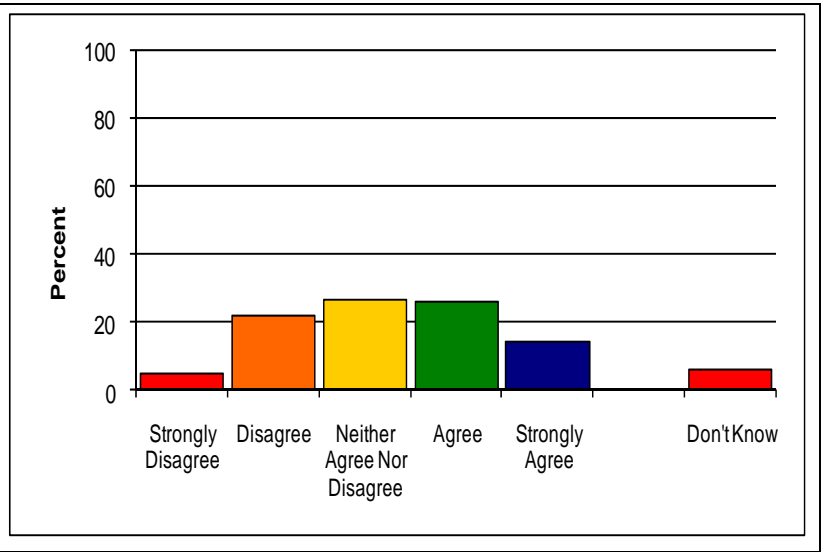


Part IV: Local Government: Access, Policies, and Practices

I am very concerned about water quality in the Borough.

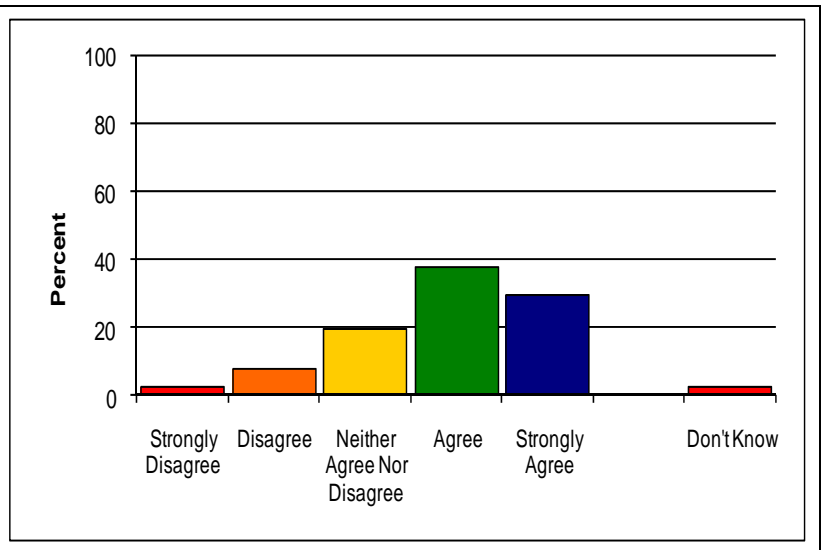
Average: 2.67

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	69	4.9
Disagree	302	21.5
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	374	26.6
Agree	369	26.2
Strongly Agree	192	13.7
Total Valid	1306	92.9
Don't Know	88	6.3
Missing	12	0.9
Total	1406	100.1



In the future, the Mat-Su Borough must do a better job of managing growth and development. Average: 3.07

Response	Freq	%
Strongly Disagree	38	2.7
Disagree	105	7.5
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	271	19.3
Agree	527	37.5
Strongly Agree	412	29.3
Total Valid	1353	96.2
Don't Know	39	2.8
Missing	14	1.0
Total	1406	100.0

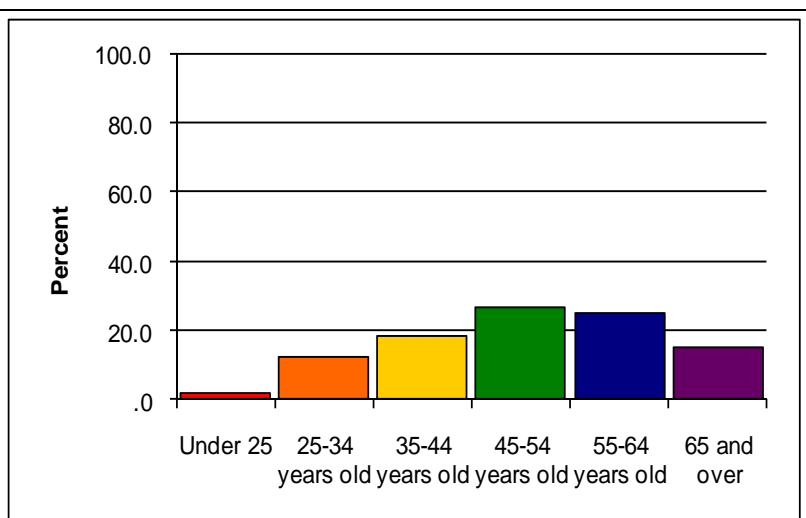


Part V: Respondent Background Information

How old were you on your last birthday?

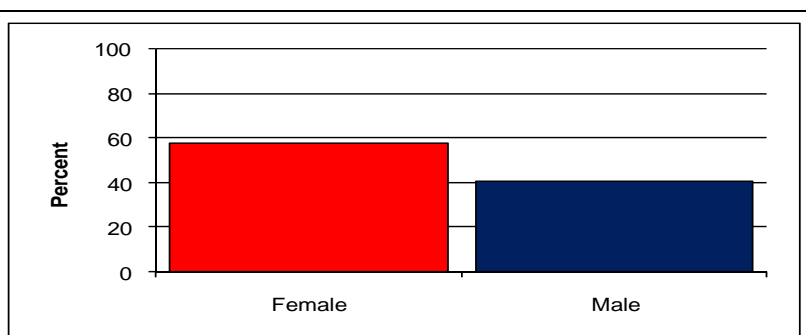
Average: 50.33

Response	Freq	%
Under 25	26	1.8
25-34 years old	168	11.9
35-44 years old	249	17.7
45-54 years old	358	25.5
55-64 years old	335	23.8
65 and over	202	14.4
Total Valid	1338	95.2
Missing	68	4.8
Total	1406	100.0



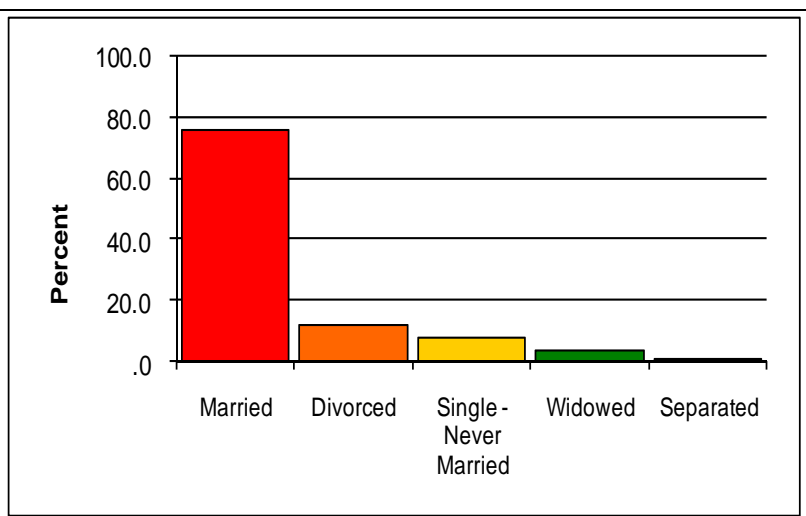
What is your gender?

Response	Freq	%
Female	808	57.5
Male	568	40.4
Total Valid	1376	97.9
Missing	30	2.1
Total	1406	100.0



What is your current marital status?

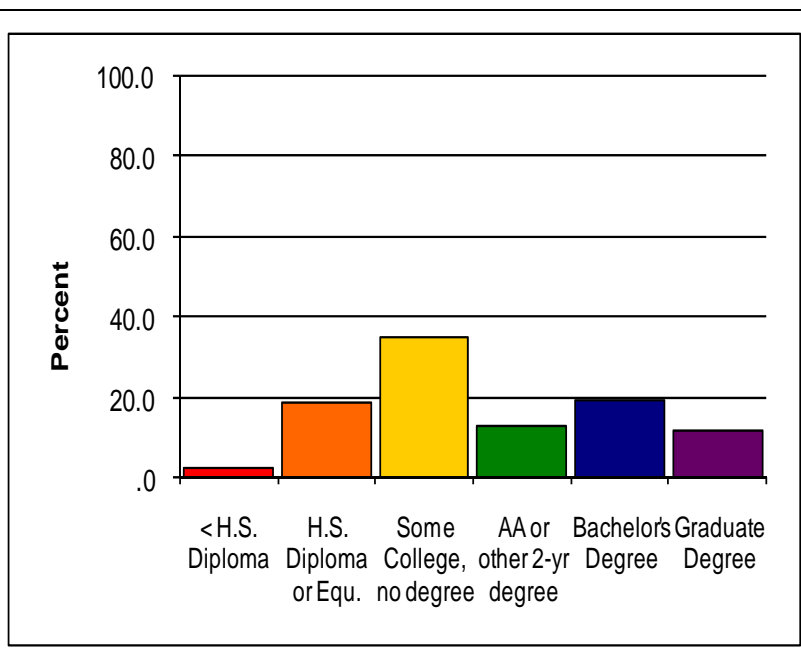
Response	Freq	%
Married	1049	74.6
Divorced	166	11.8
Single – Never Married	103	7.3
Widowed	52	3.7
Separated	10	0.7
Total Valid	1380	98.2
Missing	26	1.8
Total	1406	100.0



Part V: Respondent Background Information

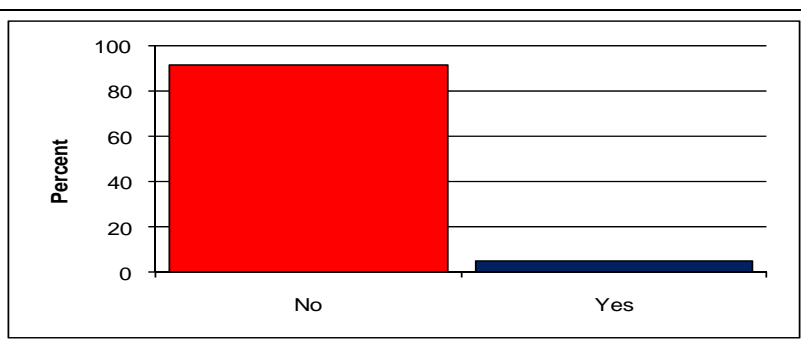
What is your highest level of formal education?

Response	Freq	%
Less than High School Diploma	31	2.2
High School Diploma or Equivalent	260	18.5
Some College, no Degree	485	34.5
Associate's or Other 2-yr Degree	181	12.9
Bachelor's Degree	264	18.8
Graduate Degree	161	11.5
Total Valid	1382	98.3
Missing	24	1.7
Total	1406	100.0



Are you of Hispanic or Latino/a background or origin?

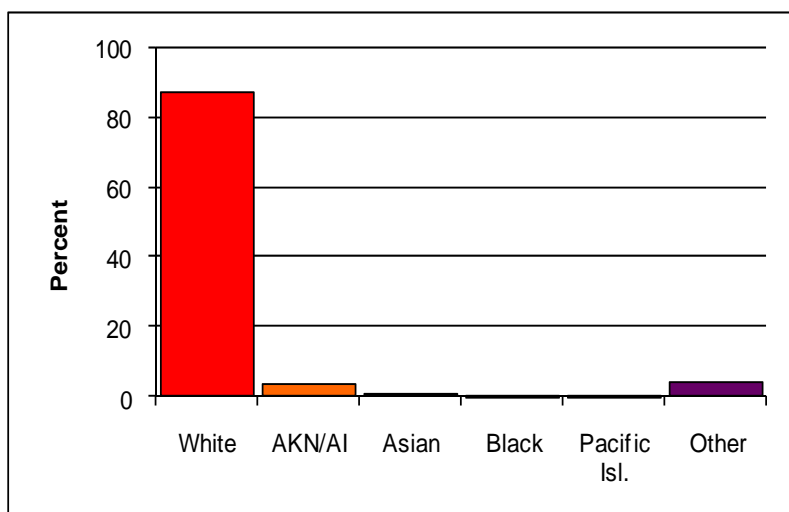
Response	Freq	%
No	1279	91.0
Yes	74	5.3
Total Valid	1353	96.3
Missing	53	3.7
Total	1406	100.0



Part V: Respondent Background Information

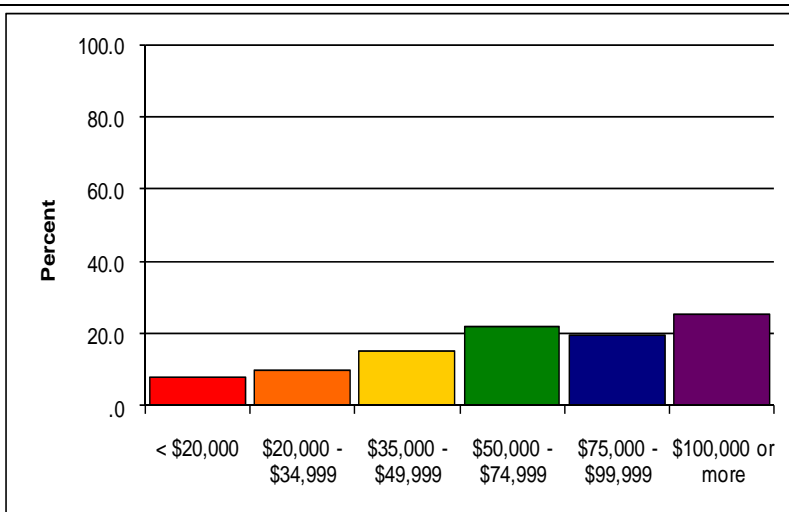
What race or ethnicity would you say best describes you?

Response	Freq	%
White or Caucasian	1225	87.1
Alaska Native or American Indian	48	3.4
Asian	15	1.1
Black or African American	7	0.5
Native Hawaiian, Samoan, or Other Pacific Islander	4	0.3
Other	59	4.2
Total Valid	1358	96.6
Missing	48	3.4
Total	1406	100.0



What is your best estimate of your total household income from last year?

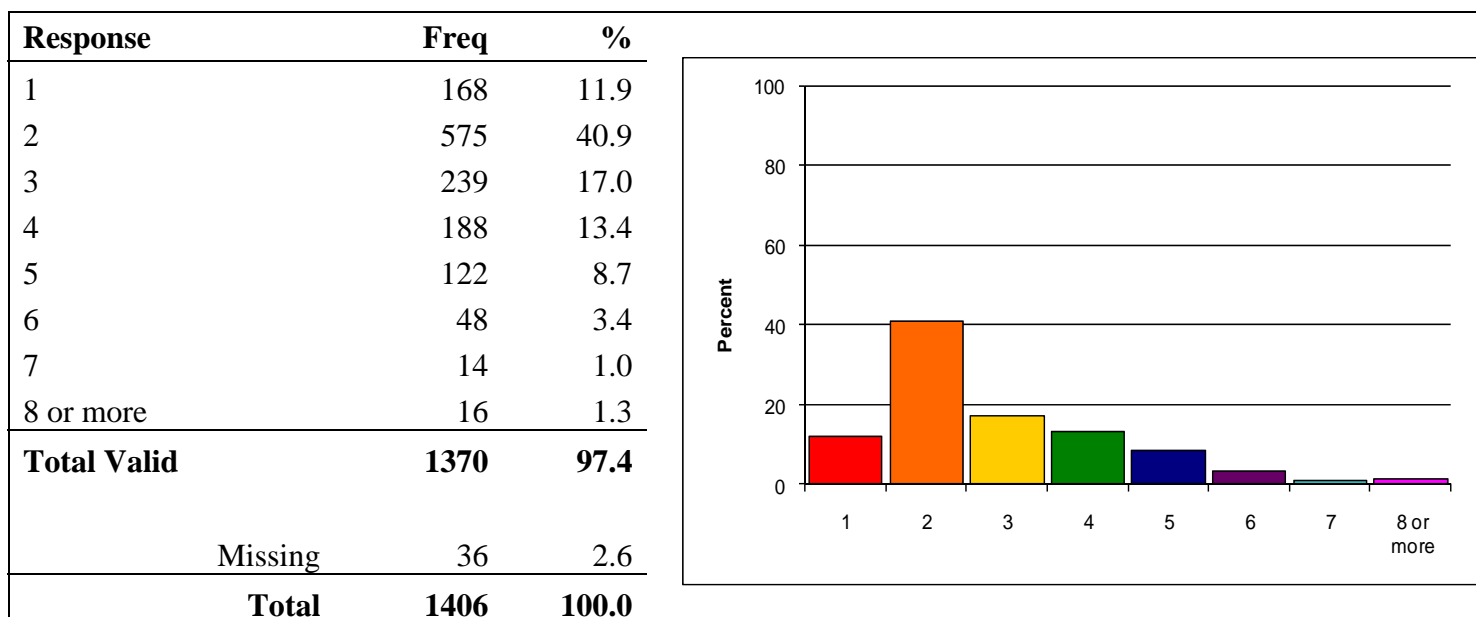
Response	Freq	%
< \$20,000	97	6.9
\$20,000 - \$34,999	125	8.9
\$35,000 - \$49,999	195	13.9
\$50,000 - \$74,999	282	20.1
\$75,000 - \$99,999	243	17.3
\$100,000 or more	316	22.5
Total Valid	1258	89.5
Missing	148	10.5
Total	1406	100.0



Part V: Respondent Background Information

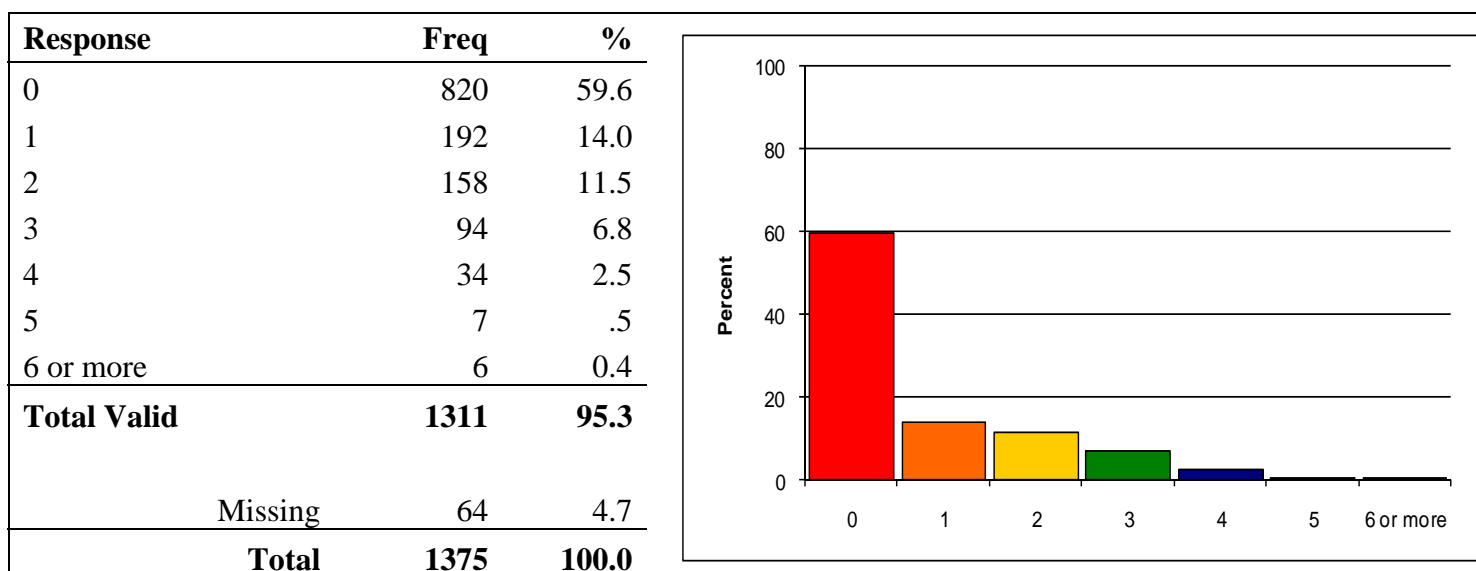
How many people currently live in your household, including yourself?

Average: 2.95



How many children under the age of 18 currently live in your home?

Average: 0.77

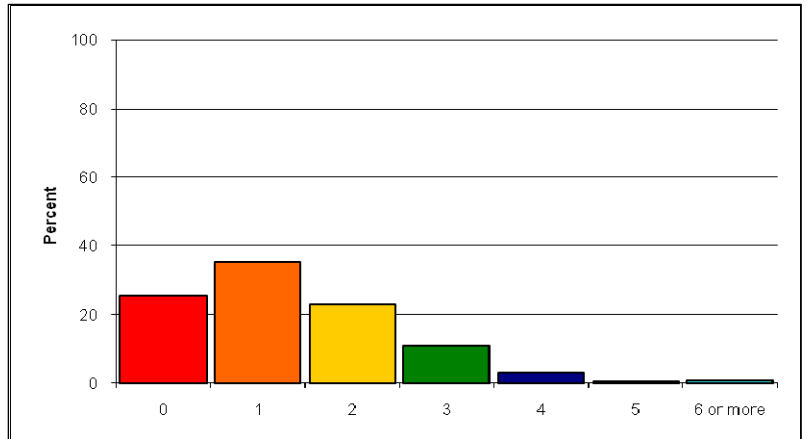


Part V: Respondent Background Information

*How many of your children currently attend Mat-Su Borough School District schools?**

Average: 1.35

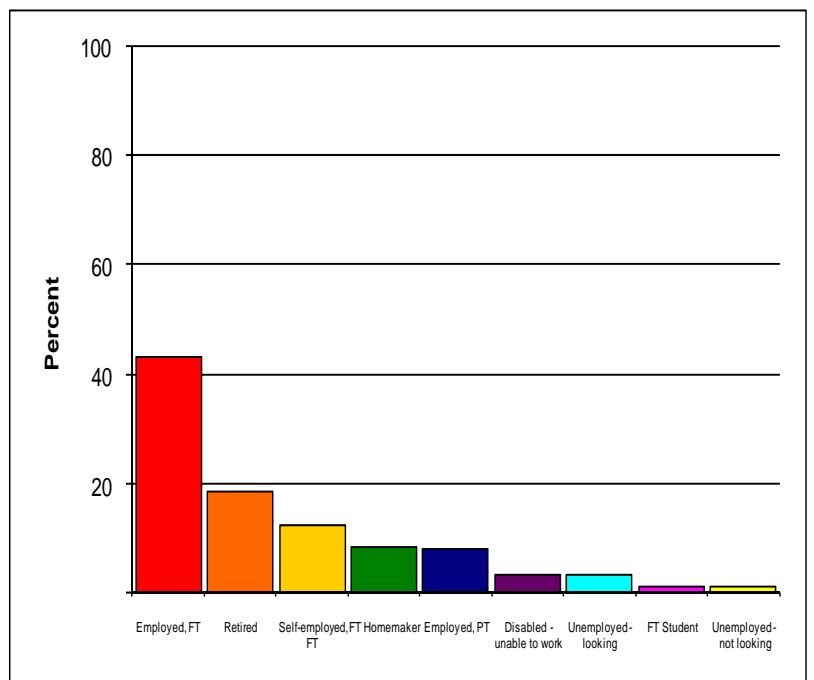
Response	Freq	%
0	129	25.6
1	179	35.6
2	116	23.1
3	55	10.9
4	15	3.0
5	3	0.6
6 or more	4	0.8
Total Valid	501	99.6
Missing	2	0.4
Total	503	100.0



* This was calculated only for respondents who indicated at least one child lives in the household.

Which of the following best describes your current primary employment status?

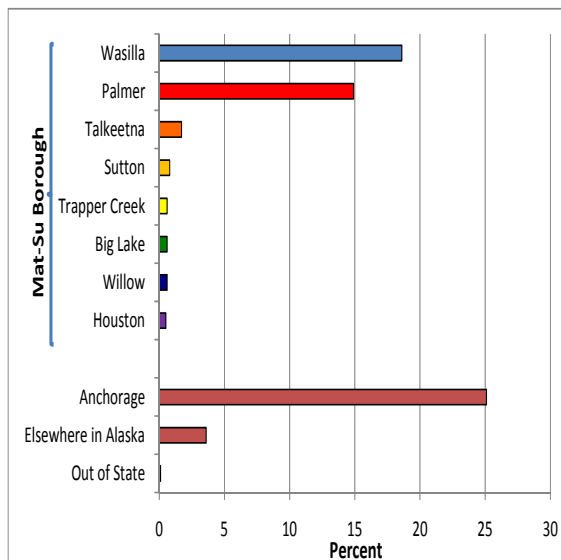
Response	Freq	%
Employed, Full-time	599	42.6
Retired	250	17.8
Self-employed, Full-time	170	12.1
Full-time Homemaker	119	8.5
Employed, Part-time	113	8.0
Disabled - unable to work	44	3.1
Unemployed - looking	44	3.1
Full-time Student	17	1.2
Unemployed - not looking	17	1.2
Total Valid	1373	97.7
Missing	33	2.3
Total	1406	100.0



Part V: Respondent Background Information

What is the zip code where you work?

Response	Freq	%
Mat-Su Borough	539	38.3
Wasilla	261	18.6
Palmer	210	14.9
Talkeetna	24	1.7
Sutton	11	0.8
Big Lake	9	0.6
Trapper Creek	9	0.6
Willow	8	0.6
Houston	7	0.5
Anchorage	190	13.4
Elsewhere in Alaska	27	1.9
Out of State	1	0.1
Total Valid	757	53.8
Missing	649	46.2
Total	1406	100.0



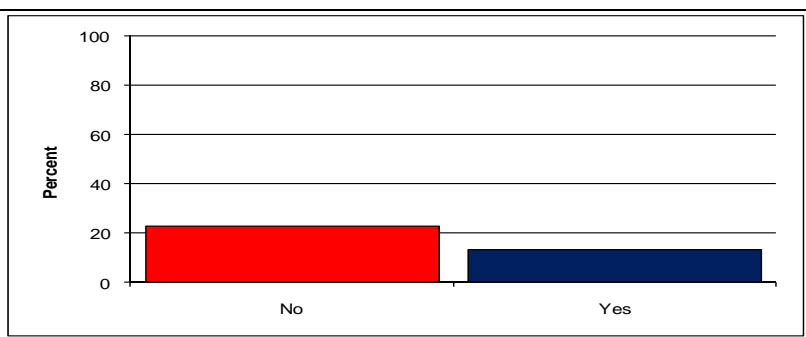
If you are currently employed, what type of work do you do?

Response	Freq	%	Response	Freq	%
Healthcare	87	6.2	Mechanical	19	1.4
Education	76	5.4	Aviation	19	1.4
Construction	75	5.3	Real Estate	18	1.3
Sales/Retail	48	3.4	Repair/Maintenance	18	1.3
Clerical/Administrative	47	3.3	Military	17	1.2
Service	45	3.2	Food Service	16	1.1
Finance	40	2.8	Hospitality/Tourism	14	1.0
Management	37	2.6	Communications	13	0.9
Civic	37	2.6	Childcare	12	0.9
Social Services	33	2.3	Computers/I.T.	12	0.9
Oil and Gas	28	2.0	Automotive	8	0.6
Transport	23	1.6	Law	8	0.6
Engineering	21	1.5	Other	23	1.6
Total Valid	794	55.8			
Missing	612	44.2			
Total	1406	100.0			

Part V: Respondent Background Information

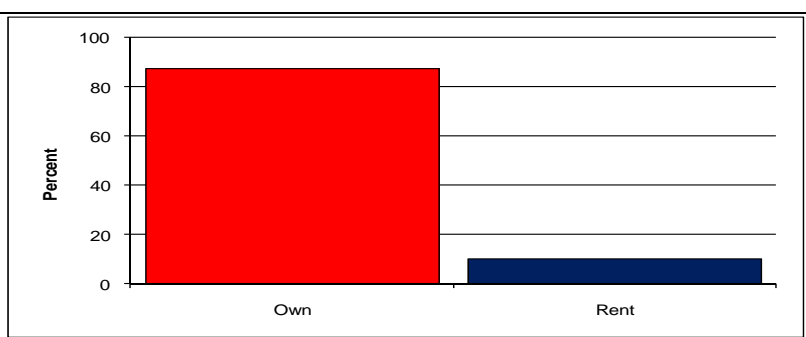
If you are currently self-employed, do you own a business in the Mat-Su Borough?

Response	Freq	%
No	385	27.4
Yes	195	13.9
Total Valid	580	41.3
Missing	826	58.7
Total	1406	100.0



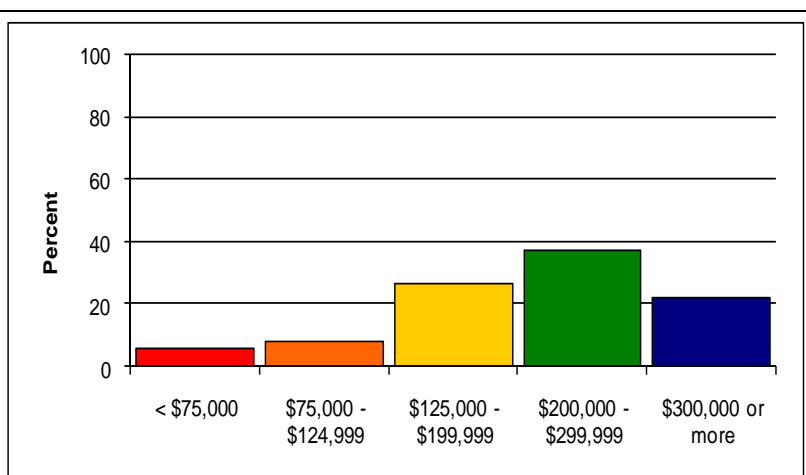
Do you own your home or do you rent?

Response	Freq	%
Own	1257	89.4
Rent	110	7.8
Total Valid	1367	97.2
Missing	39	2.8
Total	1406	100.0



If you do own your home, what is your best estimate of its current market value?

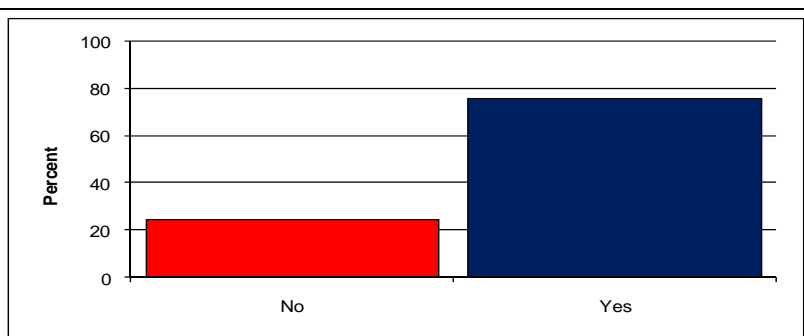
Response	Freq	%
< \$75,000	68	4.8
\$75,000 - \$124,999	95	6.8
\$125,000 - \$199,999	320	22.8
\$200,000 - \$299,999	442	31.4
\$300,000 or more	259	18.4
Total Valid	1184	84.2
Missing	222	15.8
Total	1406	100.0



Part V: Respondent Background Information

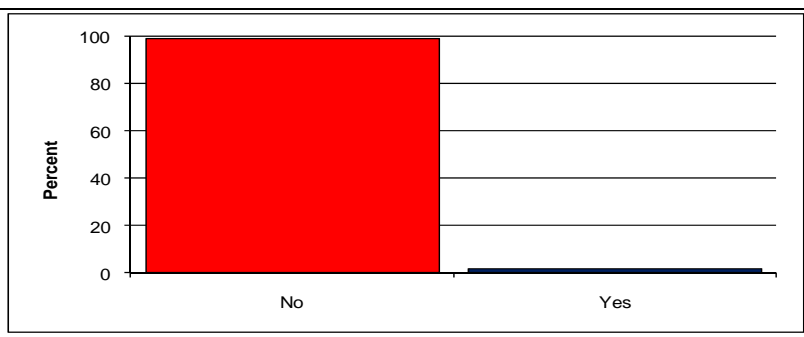
Whether you own or rent your home, is your address number posted where it can be seen by first responders in case of an emergency?

Response	Freq	%
No	332	23.6
Yes	1047	74.5
Total Valid	1379	98.1
Missing	27	1.9
Total	1406	100.0



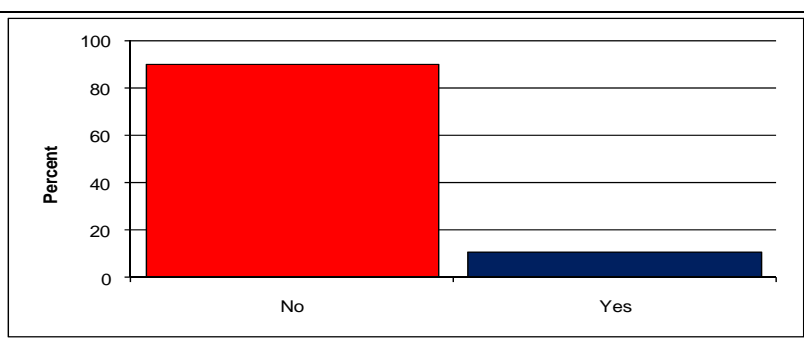
Do you live in a condominium?

Response	Freq	%
No	1355	98.4
Yes	22	1.6
Total Valid	1377	97.9
Missing	29	2.1
Total	1406	100.0



Do you currently have a second home outside the Mat-Su Borough?

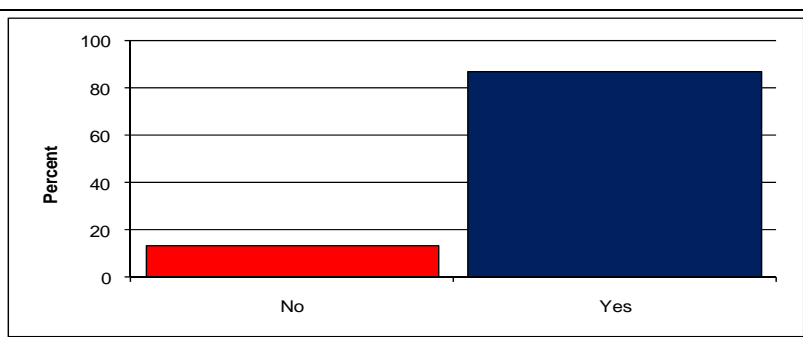
Response	Freq	%
No	1224	87.1
Yes	145	10.3
Total Valid	1369	97.4
Missing	37	2.6
Total	1406	100.0



Part V: Respondent Background Information

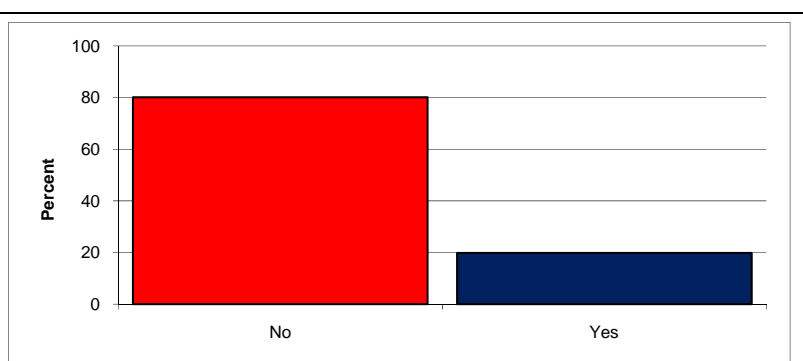
Do you see yourself staying in the Mat-Su Borough for the long term?

Response	Freq	%
No	176	12.5
Yes	1191	84.7
Total Valid	1367	97.2
Missing	39	2.8
Total	1406	100.0



Do you see yourself leaving the Mat-Su Borough to live somewhere else in the foreseeable future?

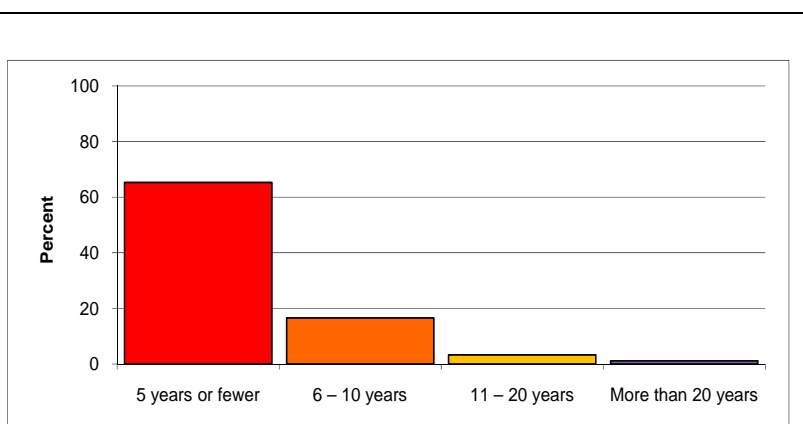
Response	Freq	%
No	1082	77.0
Yes	271	19.2
Total Valid	1353	96.2
Missing	53	3.8
Total	1406	100.0



*If you do see yourself leaving, how many more years do you expect to live in the Mat-Su Borough before you leave?**

Average: 5.12 years

Response	Freq	%
5 years or fewer	177	65.3
6 – 10 years	45	16.6
11 – 20 years	9	3.3
More than 20	3	1.1
Total Valid	234	86.3
Missing	37	13.7
Total	271	100.0



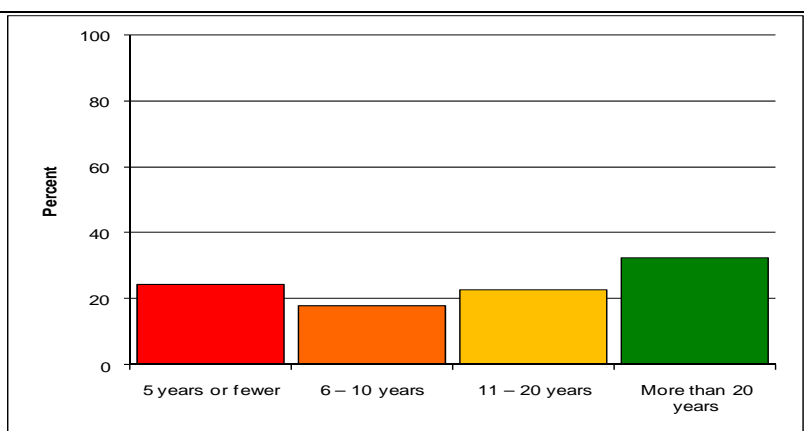
* Only the answers from respondents who said they planned to leave the Mat-Su Borough in the foreseeable future were counted here.

Part V: Respondent Background Information

How many years have you lived in the Mat-Su Borough?

Average: 16.39 years

Response	Freq	%
5 years or fewer	343	24.4
6 – 10 years	254	18.1
11 – 20 years	320	22.8
More than 20 years	452	32.1
Total Valid	1369	97.4
Missing	37	2.6
Total	1406	100.0



MAT-SU COMMUNITY **SURVEY 2009:**

Results for Geographic Areas within Borough

Fire Department Services

Average: 3.32

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	22	3.32	0	9	Talkeetna	1921	3.05	2	6
Houston	27	3.37	0	13	Trapper Creek	17	3.29	1	9
Palmer	237	3.27	12	101	Wasilla	558	3.36	7	239
Sutton	16	3.44	1	9	Willow	10	3.10	1	4

Ambulance Services

Average: 3.38

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	23	3.22	0	9	Talkeetna	23	3.30	1	9
Houston	24	3.42	0	13	Trapper Creek	21	3.48	0	11
Palmer	237	3.33	5	105	Wasilla	560	3.40	7	262
Sutton	20	3.35	1	10	Willow	12	3.67	0	8

Roadway Maintenance

Average: 2.78

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	27	2.63	3	2	Talkeetna	34	2.79	3	4
Houston	32	2.81	0	5	Trapper Creek	35	2.83	0	5
Palmer	367	2.76	15	51	Wasilla	820	2.78	43	115
Sutton	22	3.00	1	7	Willow	24	3.00	1	5

Snowplow Services

Average: 2.91

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	27	2.89	1	4	Talkeetna	34	2.76	4	7
Houston	33	2.91	2	7	Trapper Creek	35	2.97	1	8
Palmer	366	2.92	22	88	Wasilla	813	2.88	47	172
Sutton	22	3.18	1	9	Willow	24	3.38	1	12

Library Services

Average: 3.23

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	22	2.91	3	5	Talkeetna	29	3.14	0	8
Houston	27	3.37	0	14	Trapper Creek	30	3.40	1	15
Palmer	288	3.23	3	101	Wasilla	665	3.22	9	236
Sutton	20	3.40	0	11	Willow	21	3.24	0	7

Elementary Schools

Average: 3.22

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	18	3.17	1	6	Talkeetna	29	3.24	0	9
Houston	21	3.24	1	9	Trapper Creek	24	3.29	0	10
Palmer	244	3.19	4	78	Wasilla	557	3.20	7	178
Sutton	13	3.69	0	9	Willow	20	3.55	0	12

Middle Schools

Average: 3.05

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	15	2.93	2	4	Talkeetna	27	3.04	0	5
Houston	20	3.10	1	7	Trapper Creek	21	3.00	1	6
Palmer	226	2.97	7	53	Wasilla	508	3.08	10	134
Sutton	12	3.50	0	6	Willow	14	3.21	0	6

High Schools

Average: 3.03

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	15	3.00	1	4	Talkeetna	25	2.96	0	2
Houston	18	3.06	1	7	Trapper Creek	22	2.95	0	5
Palmer	224	3.00	9	56	Wasilla	505	3.05	14	129
Sutton	12	3.33	0	4	Willow	15	3.07	0	5

Community Enhancement Programs

Average: 2.72

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	11	2.27	2	1	Talkeetna	12	2.75	1	1
Houston	16	2.56	2	2	Trapper Creek	16	2.56	2	2
Palmer	162	2.70	11	20	Wasilla	367	2.75	20	45
Sutton	12	2.75	2	2	Willow	7	2.71	0	1

Wasilla Swimming Pool

Average: 3.07

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	15	2.93	0	2	Talkeetna	18	2.89	0	1
Houston	15	3.07	1	3	Trapper Creek	17	2.94	1	4
Palmer	187	3.08	6	43	Wasilla	425	3.08	11	107
Sutton	12	3.25	1	5	Willow	13	3.00	0	2

Palmer Swimming Pool

Average: 3.18

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	10	3.00	0	1	Talkeetna	12	2.92	0	0
Houston	21	3.33	0	9	Trapper Creek	19	3.11	1	5
Palmer	172	3.13	4	42	Wasilla	369	3.20	5	113
Sutton	11	3.27	1	5	Willow	12	3.17	0	4

Brett Memorial Ice Arena

Average: 3.24

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	13	3.00	0	1	Talkeetna	15	3.13	0	3
Houston	11	3.27	0	3	Trapper Creek	13	3.31	1	6
Palmer	167	3.21	1	49	Wasilla	342	3.25	2	112
Sutton	12	3.42	0	5	Willow	12	3.42	0	5

Athletic Fields

Average: 3.09

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	13	2.92	0	1	Talkeetna	18	3.28	0	6
Houston	20	3.25	0	7	Trapper Creek	19	3.21	1	6
Palmer	184	3.07	5	36	Wasilla	403	3.09	5	94
Sutton	13	3.15	0	5	Willow	12	3.17	0	4

Recycling Services

Average: 2.61

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	25	2.36	5	3	Talkeetna	28	2.54	4	5
Houston	24	2.92	1	6	Trapper Creek	24	2.62	1	4
Palmer	280	2.55	50	49	Wasilla	635	2.65	75	114
Sutton	16	2.31	4	3	Willow	22	2.55	3	3

Central Landfill Services

Average: 3.23

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	24	3.13	1	7	Talkeetna	28	3.18	0	7
Houston	30	3.23	0	8	Trapper Creek	31	3.23	1	11
Palmer	340	3.22	5	112	Wasilla	761	3.24	11	254
Sutton	21	3.24	1	8	Willow	21	3.24	0	8

Animal Care & Regulation Services

Average: 2.92

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	17	3.00	2	6	Talkeetna	25	3.00	2	7
Houston	25	2.80	2	3	Trapper Creek	23	2.83	1	2
Palmer	262	2.95	9	52	Wasilla	643	2.90	32	112
Sutton	18	2.94	1	5	Willow	17	3.24	0	6

Code/Zoning Enforcement Services

Average: 2.47

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	18	2.44	3	2	Talkeetna	20	2.65	3	5
Houston	16	2.38	2	0	Trapper Creek	20	2.35	4	1
Palmer	216	2.41	36	16	Wasilla	524	2.48	66	37
Sutton	11	2.82	1	3	Willow	15	2.73	0	1

Borough News and Information Dissemination

Average: 2.52

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	20	2.35	3	0	Talkeetna	26	2.65	4	5
Houston	28	2.54	3	1	Trapper Creek	25	2.44	3	2
Palmer	288	2.50	36	18	Wasilla	668	2.52	66	44
Sutton	16	2.75	1	4	Willow	17	2.82	1	3

Overall Rating of Borough Services

Average: 2.81

Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good	Area	n	Average	Very Poor	Very Good
Big Lake	24	2.71	0	1	Talkeetna	30	2.93	2	5
Houston	32	2.88	1	2	Trapper Creek	30	2.80	0	1
Palmer	324	2.78	16	23	Wasilla	740	2.81	23	47
Sutton	20	2.90	2	4	Willow	22	2.95	0	2

Library Use Frequency

Average: 1.49

Area	N	Average	Never	Very Often	Area	n	Average	Never	Very Often
Big Lake	26	1.62	7	3	Talkeetna	36	1.64	9	4
Houston	34	1.74	8	3	Trapper Creek	34	1.79	5	3
Palmer	375	1.48	95	30	Wasilla	839	1.43	216	60
Sutton	23	2.09	3	3	Willow	24	1.96	5	4

Recreational Facility Use Frequency

Average: 1.44

Area	N	Average	Never	Very Often	Area	n	Average	Never	Very Often
Big Lake	27	1.37	6	1	Talkeetna	36	1.36	9	1
Houston	34	1.50	10	3	Trapper Creek	35	1.29	11	0
Palmer	376	1.52	79	20	Wasilla	837	1.42	225	35
Sutton	23	1.70	5	3	Willow	24	1.33	8	0

MASCOT Public Transportation

Average: 0.15

Area	N	Average	Never	Very Often	Area	n	Average	Never	Very Often
Big Lake	26	0.27	22	0	Talkeetna	36	0.14	33	0
Houston	34	0.09	31	0	Trapper Creek	34	0.09	32	0
Palmer	372	0.13	342	2	Wasilla	830	0.16	752	4
Sutton	22	0.23	19	0	Willow	23	0.33	21	1

Personally, I would rate my neighborhood as an excellent place to live.

Average: 3.29

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	27	3.39	0	11	Talkeetna	36	3.11	1	10
Houston	33	3.11	0	8	Trapper Creek	35	3.39	0	15
Palmer	373	3.27	8	153	Wasilla	836	3.29	15	353
Sutton	23	3.48	0	13	Willow	24	3.63	0	17

On the whole, I like this neighborhood as a place to live.

Average: 3.38

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	27	3.46	0	13	Talkeetna	35	3.17	1	11
Houston	34	3.25	1	13	Trapper Creek	35	3.40	0	16
Palmer	373	3.34	7	164	Wasilla	828	3.39	7	385
Sutton	23	3.59	0	15	Willow	24	3.63	0	17

Suppose that for some reason you HAD to move away from this neighborhood.

Would you miss the neighborhood very much, somewhat, not much, or not at all?

Average: 2.27

Area	n	Average	Not at all	Very Much	Area	n	Average	Not at all	Very Much
Big Lake	27	2.37	1	14	Talkeetna	36	2.11	6	19
Houston	34	1.97	4	12	Trapper Creek	35	2.20	3	17
Palmer	372	2.25	25	180	Wasilla	829	2.30	30	382
Sutton	23	2.35	1	12	Willow	24	2.42	1	12

People in my neighborhood can be trusted.

Average: 3.00

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	26	3.15	1	8	Talkeetna	31	2.90	2	6
Houston	30	3.00	1	5	Trapper Creek	33	2.90	0	5
Palmer	351	2.99	7	71	Wasilla	795	3.00	17	166
Sutton	22	3.10	0	7	Willow	24	3.31	0	10

People in my neighborhood generally do not get along with each other.

Average: 2.01

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	24	1.79	10	1	Talkeetna	32	2.08	4	0
Houston	31	2.08	4	1	Trapper Creek	35	2.07	3	0
Palmer	341	2.01	70	6	Wasilla	757	2.00	146	14
Sutton	21	1.88	5	0	Willow	24	1.90	7	0

People in my neighborhood do not share the same values.

Average: 2.26

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	22	2.07	6	2	Talkeetna	28	2.23	3	1
Houston	30	2.52	0	2	Trapper Creek	31	2.26	3	1
Palmer	320	2.30	35	15	Wasilla	728	2.25	99	25
Sutton	22	2.36	3	1	Willow	21	2.02	5	0

People in my neighborhood are willing to help their neighbors.

Average: 3.10

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	27	3.28	1	10	Talkeetna	33	2.97	1	7
Houston	32	3.05	1	5	Trapper Creek	34	3.10	0	8
Palmer	351	3.10	6	89	Wasilla	792	3.09	10	187
Sutton	22	3.40	0	11	Willow	23	3.24	0	8

Mine is a close-knit neighborhood.

Average: 2.52

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	26	2.58	2	3	Talkeetna	33	2.40	5	2
Houston	33	2.45	1	1	Trapper Creek	32	2.70	0	3
Palmer	355	2.51	28	26	Wasilla	804	2.52	55	63
Sutton	23	2.78	0	5	Willow	24	2.56	1	3

One or more of my neighbors could be counted on to intervene if children were spray-painting graffiti on a local building.

Average: 3.23

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	26	3.31	1	12	Talkeetna	32	3.09	2	10
Houston	29	3.31	0	11	Trapper Creek	32	3.25	1	12
Palmer	344	3.18	11	113	Wasilla	767	3.23	11	258
Sutton	23	3.46	0	12	Willow	20	3.45	0	9

At least one of my neighbors would intervene if children were showing disrespect toward an adult.

Average: 2.98

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	22	3.18	1	8	Talkeetna	30	2.83	3	6
Houston	28	3.02	0	5	Trapper Creek	29	3.09	0	7
Palmer	321	2.95	12	57	Wasilla	728	2.98	20	142
Sutton	21	3.17	0	8	Willow	19	3.03	1	6

One or more of my neighbors could be counted on to intervene if the fire station closest to their home was threatened with budget cuts.

Average: 3.03

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	19	2.82	1	2	Talkeetna	30	2.80	1	4
Houston	28	3.07	0	6	Trapper Creek	26	3.06	0	6
Palmer	295	3.03	6	69	Wasilla	671	3.03	10	142
Sutton	18	3.28	0	7	Willow	19	3.26	0	7

One or more of my neighbors could be counted on to intervene if a fight broke out in front of their home.

Average: 3.14

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	25	3.12	0	6	Talkeetna	32	3.06	0	7
Houston	32	3.22	0	9	Trapper Creek	30	3.18	0	9
Palmer	333	3.12	9	92	Wasilla	752	3.14	13	200
Sutton	22	3.32	0	9	Willow	19	3.29	0	7

At least one of my neighbors would intervene if children were skipping school and hanging out on a neighborhood street corner.

Average: 2.86

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	22	2.91	2	7	Talkeetna	31	2.65	6	7
Houston	26	2.85	1	5	Trapper Creek	25	2.80	1	5
Palmer	298	2.80	15	44	Wasilla	694	2.88	23	123
Sutton	19	3.03	1	6	Willow	19	3.08	1	6

How often do you borrow something from or loan something to a neighbor?

Average: 0.93

Area	n	Average	Never	Daily	Area	n	Average	Never	Daily
Big Lake	27	1.07	9	1	Talkeetna	35	0.60	16	0
Houston	33	0.79	12	0	Trapper Creek	35	0.91	10	0
Palmer	373	0.96	120	3	Wasilla	838	0.91	295	3
Sutton	23	1.39	3	0	Willow	24	1.13	4	0

How often do you visit with a neighbor, out in the neighborhood or in one of your homes?

Average: 1.89

Area	n	Average	Never	Daily	Area	n	Average	Never	Daily
Big Lake	27	2.15	2	3	Talkeetna	35	1.80	5	1
Houston	33	1.52	2	1	Trapper Creek	35	2.11	3	2
Palmer	371	1.85	43	27	Wasilla	833	1.89	97	62
Sutton	23	2.30	1	2	Willow	24	2.17	4	2

How many of your neighbors would you say you know by sight or by name?

Average: 2.21

Area	n	Average	None	All or almost all	Area	n	Average	None	All or almost all
Big Lake	27	2.37	0	5	Talkeetna	35	2.34	0	4
Houston	34	2.32	1	6	Trapper Creek	35	2.20	2	3
Palmer	374	2.22	6	37	Wasilla	840	2.19	20	85
Sutton	23	2.35	1	4	Willow	24	2.33	0	4

Not counting those who live with you, how many friends or relatives do you have in your neighborhood?.

Average: 1.77

Area	n	Average	None	10 or more	Area	n	Average	None	10 or more
Big Lake	27	1.96	4	6	Talkeetna	35	1.80	7	6
Houston	34	1.47	9	3	Trapper Creek	35	2.20	4	10
Palmer	373	1.78	71	59	Wasilla	839	1.74	165	139
Sutton	23	2.04	5	5	Willow	24	1.96	1	6

Are there abandoned cars and/or buildings in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	20	7	Talkeetna	34	21	13
Houston	33	14	19	Trapper Creek	34	21	13
Palmer	375	229	146	Wasilla	834	521	313
Sutton	23	10	12	Willow	24	14	10

Are there rundown or neglected buildings in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	16	11	Talkeetna	35	21	14
Houston	34	19	15	Trapper Creek	34	23	11
Palmer	373	226	147	Wasilla	828	545	283
Sutton	23	12	11	Willow	24	11	13

Is there poor lighting in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	13	14	Talkeetna	34	11	23
Houston	34	16	18	Trapper Creek	34	10	24
Palmer	369	146	223	Wasilla	831	309	522
Sutton	23	11	12	Willow	23	7	16

Are there overgrown shrubs or trees in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	11	16	Talkeetna	32	19	13
Houston	33	22	11	Trapper Creek	33	19	14
Palmer	371	209	162	Wasilla	826	465	361
Sutton	23	14	9	Willow	23	13	10

Is there trash in the streets in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	23	4	Talkeetna	35	28	7
Houston	34	28	6	Trapper Creek	33	26	7
Palmer	374	315	59	Wasilla	831	688	143
Sutton	23	20	3	Willow	24	19	5

Are there empty lots in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	14	13	Talkeetna	34	15	19
Houston	33	14	19	Trapper Creek	33	18	15
Palmer	369	172	197	Wasilla	828	381	447
Sutton	23	10	13	Willow	24	12	12

Is there public drinking and/or drug use in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	24	3	Talkeetna	34	28	6
Houston	33	30	3	Trapper Creek	33	30	3
Palmer	366	322	44	Wasilla	828	735	93
Sutton	23	23	0	Willow	24	20	4

Are there public drug sales in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	25	2	Talkeetna	34	31	3
Houston	33	31	2	Trapper Creek	33	30	3
Palmer	366	336	30	Wasilla	818	759	59
Sutton	23	23	0	Willow	23	21	2

Is there vandalism or graffiti in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	25	2	Talkeetna	34	31	3
Houston	33	26	7	Trapper Creek	33	28	5
Palmer	367	318	49	Wasilla	827	704	123
Sutton	23	20	3	Willow	24	20	4

Is there prostitution in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	27	0	Talkeetna	33	33	0
Houston	33	33	0	Trapper Creek	33	32	1
Palmer	369	365	4	Wasilla	818	803	15
Sutton	23	23	0	Willow	24	22	2

Is there panhandling/begging in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	27	0	Talkeetna	36	34	2
Houston	33	33	0	Trapper Creek	33	32	1
Palmer	373	363	10	Wasilla	829	804	25
Sutton	23	23	0	Willow	24	24	0

Is there loitering or hanging out in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	25	2	Talkeetna	33	31	2
Houston	33	31	2	Trapper Creek	33	28	5
Palmer	372	336	36	Wasilla	826	740	86
Sutton	22	19	3	Willow	24	21	3

Is there truancy/youth skipping school in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	23	4	Talkeetna	33	31	2
Houston	31	28	3	Trapper Creek	33	30	3
Palmer	362	329	33	Wasilla	810	738	72
Sutton	23	23	0	Willow	24	21	3

Are there transients/homeless sleeping on the streets in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	26	1	Talkeetna	33	33	0
Houston	33	33	0	Trapper Creek	33	33	0
Palmer	372	361	11	Wasilla	826	796	30
Sutton	23	23	0	Willow	24	24	0

To what extent are you fearful that you or members of your household will be the victim of burglary (while you or your loved ones are at home)?

Average: 0.79

Area	n	Average	Not at all	A lot	Area	n	Average	Not at all	A lot
Big Lake	26	0.38	18	0	Talkeetna	34	0.71	17	1
Houston	33	0.73	13	1	Trapper Creek	35	0.89	12	1
Palmer	374	0.81	140	12	Wasilla	839	0.81	333	39
Sutton	23	0.57	13	0	Willow	24	0.71	10	1

To what extent are you fearful that you or members of your household will be the victim of sexual assault?

Average: 0.45

Area	n	Average	Not at all	A lot	Area	n	Average	Not at all	A lot
Big Lake	27	0.33	19	0	Talkeetna	34	0.53	20	1
Houston	34	0.41	21	0	Trapper Creek	35	0.57	19	0
Palmer	376	0.46	230	3	Wasilla	834	0.44	524	8
Sutton	23	0.39	16	1	Willow	24	0.46	15	0

To what extent are you fearful that you or members of your household will be the victim of murder?

Average: 0.29

Area	n	Average	Not at all	A lot	Area	n	Average	Not at all	A lot
Big Lake	27	0.15	23	0	Talkeetna	34	0.26	28	1
Houston	34	0.26	25	0	Trapper Creek	35	0.26	26	0
Palmer	374	0.30	278	2	Wasilla	834	0.29	623	2
Sutton	23	0.26	18	0	Willow	24	0.25	18	0

To what extent are you fearful that you or members of your household will be the victim of a kidnapping?

Average: 0.26

Area	n	Average	Not at all	A lot	Area	n	Average	Not at all	A lot
Big Lake	27	0.30	21	0	Talkeetna	34	0.24	26	0
Houston	34	0.26	26	0	Trapper Creek	34	0.32	27	1
Palmer	376	0.28	289	3	Wasilla	835	0.25	663	7
Sutton	23	0.13	20	0	Willow	24	0.12	21	0

To what extent are you fearful that you or members of your household will be attacked with a weapon?

Average: 0.55

Area	n	Average	Not at all	A lot	Area	n	Average	Not at all	A lot
Big Lake	27	0.48	18	1	Talkeetna	34	0.56	20	2
Houston	34	0.47	18	0	Trapper Creek	35	0.57	19	0
Palmer	375	0.55	213	9	Wasilla	835	0.55	454	13
Sutton	23	0.61	11	0	Willow	24	0.54	11	0

How often does worry about crime prevent you from doing things you would like to do in your neighborhood?

Average: 0.38

Area	n	Average	Never	Often	Area	n	Average	Never	Often
Big Lake	27	0.26	21	0	Talkeetna	345	0.20	30	0
Houston	34	0.26	25	0	Trapper Creek	35	0.29	27	0
Palmer	375	0.38	278	5	Wasilla	834	0.41	580	15
Sutton	23	0.17	20	0	Willow	24	0.42	15	0

In the past 6 months, how often has there been a fight in which a weapon was used in your neighborhood?

Average: 0.11

Area	n	Average	Never	4 or more	Area	n	Average	Never	4 or more
Big Lake	27	0.15	26	1	Talkeetna	31	0.19	26	0
Houston	31	0.06	29	0	Trapper Creek	32	0.06	30	0
Palmer	360	0.14	328	3	Wasilla	798	0.10	740	2
Sutton	23	0.04	22	0	Willow	24	0.08	22	0

In the past 6 months, how often has there been a violent argument between neighbors in your neighborhood?

Average: 0.23

Area	n	Average	Never	4 or more	Area	n	Average	Never	4 or more
Big Lake	27	0.15	26	1	Talkeetna	31	0.26	25	0
Houston	31	0.16	28	0	Trapper Creek	32	0.12	29	0
Palmer	358	0.26	301	5	Wasilla	801	0.23	681	10
Sutton	22	0.14	20	0	Willow	24	0.33	19	0

In the past 6 months, how often has there been a gang fight in your neighborhood?

Average: 0.01

Area	n	Average	Never	4 or more	Area	n	Average	Never	4 or more
Big Lake	27	0.00	27	0	Talkeetna	31	0.00	31	0
Houston	31	0.00	31	0	Trapper Creek	34	0.00	34	0
Palmer	364	0.02	360	0	Wasilla	816	0.01	811	1
Sutton	23	0.00	23	0	Willow	24	0.00	24	0

In the past 6 months, how often has there been a sexual assault or rape in your neighborhood?

Average: 0.04

Area	n	Average	Never	4 or more	Area	n	Average	Never	4 or more
Big Lake	27	0.00	27	0	Talkeetna	31	0.03	30	0
Houston	31	0.00	31	0	Trapper Creek	33	0.03	32	0
Palmer	358	0.04	349	0	Wasilla	795	0.04	773	1
Sutton	23	0.00	23	0	Willow	24	0.08	22	0

In the past 6 months, how often has there been a robbery, burglary, or mugging in your neighborhood?

Average: 0.51

Area	n	Average	Never	4 or more	Area	n	Average	Never	4 or more
Big Lake	25	0.28	20	0	Talkeetna	31	0.55	21	1
Houston	32	0.50	23	1	Trapper Creek	35	0.71	22	3
Palmer	355	0.49	258	11	Wasilla	789	0.50	555	26
Sutton	23	1.04	14	2	Willow	23	0.57	16	1

While you have lived in this neighborhood, has anyone ever used violence, such as in a mugging, fight, or sexual assault, against you, or any member of your household anywhere in your neighborhood?

Area	n	No	Yes	Area	n	No	Yes
Big Lake	27	26	1	Talkeetna	36	35	0
Houston	32	31	1	Trapper Creek	35	33	1
Palmer	373	352	21	Wasilla	827	781	46
Sutton	23	21	2	Willow	24	24	0

Overall, I am satisfied with the opportunities the Borough provides to give input on decisions.

Average: 2.50

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	22	2.34	4	0	Talkeetna	28	2.43	3	0
Houston	27	2.41	3	0	Trapper Creek	27	2.41	2	1
Palmer	313	2.51	24	12	Wasilla	698	2.51	45	13
Sutton	18	2.39	4	0	Willow	20	2.65	3	2

I find the Borough's website easy to use.

Average: 2.64

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	15	2.47	1	0	Talkeetna	22	2.61	1	1
Houston	19	2.82	1	2	Trapper Creek	19	2.55	1	1
Palmer	242	2.61	11	8	Wasilla	509	2.65	18	13
Sutton	14	2.57	1	0	Willow	16	2.84	0	1

I would describe the Borough's website as "informative".

Average: 2.68

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	14	2.61	0	0	Talkeetna	21	2.52	2	0
Houston	18	2.83	0	1	Trapper Creek	19	2.45	2	1
Palmer	243	2.69	4	10	Wasilla	499	2.69	12	13
Sutton	14	2.54	1	0	Willow	16	2.88	0	2

When I call the Borough, I usually get the information I need in a timely manner.

Average: 2.71

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	N	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	15	2.63	0	0	Talkeetna	27	2.67	3	3
Houston	24	2.85	1	4	Trapper Creek	26	2.71	1	4
Palmer	288	2.68	12	18	Wasilla	597	2.72	23	39
Sutton	20	2.85	1	3	Willow	20	2.85	0	3

When I call the Borough, the person I speak with is usually polite and professional.

Average: 2.98

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	15	2.93	0	1	Talkeetna	31	2.90	2	4
Houston	28	3.09	0	6	Trapper Creek	26	3.02	1	6
Palmer	292	2.96	3	40	Wasilla	612	2.99	9	88
Sutton	21	3.05	1	5	Willow	18	3.19	0	6

I feel I am getting my money's worth for the taxes I pay to the Mat-Su Borough.

Average: 2.26

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	23	2.26	4	1	Talkeetna	33	2.05	10	2
Houston	31	2.35	4	0	Trapper Creek	32	2.16	4	0
Palmer	344	2.26	58	13	Wasilla	778	2.28	112	17
Sutton	21	2.21	6	2	Willow	21	2.29	4	1

Funds should be spent to preserve open spaces in the Borough.

Average: 2.71

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	22	2.45	2	2	Talkeetna	29	2.60	3	4
Houston	30	2.77	1	3	Trapper Creek	32	2.55	4	2
Palmer	333	2.74	24	58	Wasilla	743	2.72	48	109
Sutton	22	2.50	5	2	Willow	20	2.73	1	5

The current level of road maintenance in my area is worth what I pay in road service area taxes.

Average: 2.34

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	24	2.21	4	1	Talkeetna	33	2.38	7	4
Houston	32	2.34	6	0	Trapper Creek	31	2.23	6	0
Palmer	350	2.37	63	24	Wasilla	785	2.32	131	30
Sutton	22	2.55	4	2	Willow	23	2.46	3	1

I would support an increase in the tobacco tax to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.56

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	27	2.67	7	10	Talkeetna	34	2.44	7	7
Houston	34	2.44	8	5	Trapper Creek	33	2.53	7	6
Palmer	367	2.52	82	74	Wasilla	816	2.59	180	206
Sutton	21	2.62	6	7	Willow	24	2.75	4	9

I would support a local tax on alcoholic beverages to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.55

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	27	2.98	4	10	Talkeetna	35	2.41	7	6
Houston	34	2.37	9	3	Trapper Creek	34	2.27	9	3
Palmer	370	2.58	73	83	Wasilla	820	2.56	166	169
Sutton	20	2.25	6	4	Willow	24	2.67	6	8

I would support an increase in the bed tax (charged to hotels) to pay for services.

Average: 2.39

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	26	2.56	3	4	Talkeetna	33	2.42	7	4
Houston	33	2.42	5	3	Trapper Creek	33	2.21	5	1
Palmer	362	2.40	64	38	Wasilla	809	2.39	135	81
Sutton	20	2.20	4	0	Willow	24	2.46	5	5

I would support a seasonal tax to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.21

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	27	1.83	11	0	Talkeetna	33	2.00	12	2
Houston	32	2.06	11	1	Trapper Creek	33	2.24	5	1
Palmer	356	2.26	86	33	Wasilla	789	2.21	195	75
Sutton	20	2.25	7	2	Willow	24	2.42	6	5

I would support a year-round sales tax to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.02

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	27	2.02	10	2	Talkeetna	33	1.71	16	1
Houston	31	2.05	9	1	Trapper Creek	34	1.90	11	0
Palmer	362	2.08	108	23	Wasilla	796	2.01	263	48
Sutton	20	1.80	10	1	Willow	24	2.08	7	2

I would support imposing an impact fee on developers for residential and commercial properties to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.40

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	N	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	27	2.63	5	6	Talkeetna	32	2.33	9	5
Houston	30	2.42	4	2	Trapper Creek	31	2.32	6	4
Palmer	349	2.43	71	43	Wasilla	774	2.38	150	83
Sutton	19	2.11	6	1	Willow	23	2.57	2	3

I would support a local tax on gasoline to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 1.59

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	27	1.65	15	1	Talkeetna	33	1.35	23	0
Houston	33	1.68	13	1	Trapper Creek	34	1.60	15	0
Palmer	369	1.60	188	5	Wasilla	819	1.60	406	10
Sutton	23	1.44	13	0	Willow	24	1.79	8	1

I would support increased property taxes to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 1.53

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	27	1.50	15	0	Talkeetna	33	1.35	23	0
Houston	33	1.48	19	0	Trapper Creek	34	1.63	15	0
Palmer	370	1.50	218	3	Wasilla	819	1.55	450	11
Sutton	23	1.46	13	0	Willow	24	1.54	12	0

I would support a gravel extracting tax to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.34

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	27	2.46	6	3	Talkeetna	32	2.19	11	4
Houston	31	2.48	6	4	Trapper Creek	30	2.48	4	3
Palmer	348	2.34	83	40	Wasilla	767	2.33	172	86
Sutton	22	2.25	8	3	Willow	23	2.41	5	4

I would support a real estate transfer fee of \$25 to raise money to pay for services.

Average: 2.38

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	27	2.41	7	3	Talkeetna	32	2.17	11	2
Houston	30	2.70	4	4	Trapper Creek	32	2.50	4	2
Palmer	349	2.36	81	33	Wasilla	786	2.39	160	73
Sutton	20	2.25	7	2	Willow	24	2.17	7	2

As of today, I am satisfied with the way the Mat-Su Borough has been developed.

Average: 2.38

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	27	2.37	5	2	Talkeetna	34	2.27	4	0
Houston	30	2.20	5	0	Trapper Creek	33	2.35	3	0
Palmer	363	2.36	44	10	Wasilla	813	2.41	66	17
Sutton	22	2.32	3	0	Willow	24	2.06	5	0

Traffic congestion is a serious problem in the Mat-Su Borough.

Average: 2.97

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	27	3.09	1	8	Talkeetna	36	2.85	1	6
Houston	34	3.09	0	9	Trapper Creek	34	2.87	2	11
Palmer	369	2.96	17	115	Wasilla	829	2.98	36	253
Sutton	23	2.87	1	7	Willow	22	2.96	1	4

I am very concerned about water quality in the Borough.

Average: 2.67

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	25	2.82	3	7	Talkeetna	33	2.53	4	6
Houston	32	2.81	0	5	Trapper Creek	31	2.53	1	2
Palmer	350	2.62	24	43	Wasilla	784	2.70	33	125
Sutton	21	2.62	1	1	Willow	24	2.58	2	3

In the future, the Mat-Su Borough must do a better job of managing growth and development.

Average: 3.07

Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Area	n	Average	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree
Big Lake	25	3.16	2	11	Talkeetna	35	2.99	3	12
Houston	33	3.32	0	14	Trapper Creek	34	2.96	1	7
Palmer	365	3.04	11	106	Wasilla	809	3.08	20	250
Sutton	23	2.94	1	3	Willow	24	3.13	1	9

Appendix A:

How Averages Were Calculated and How to Interpret Them

Part I: Evaluation of Current Borough Services

- All the questions in this part had five possible responses: *very poor*, *poor*, *good*, *very good*, and *no opinion*. The values given to these responses for calculating the average are as follows:

Very Poor	1.0
Poor	2.0
Good	3.0
Very Good	4.0
Don't Know	0.0

The higher the average, the more positive opinion respondents had, in the aggregate, about the borough service.

Part II: Use of Borough Services

- Questions in this part with the responses *never*, *seldom*, *occasionally*, *fairly often*, and *very often*, used these values for calculating the average:

Never	0.0
Seldom	1.0
Occasionally	2.0
Fairly Often	3.0
Very Often	4.0

The higher the average, the more often respondents, in the aggregate, had used the borough facility.

Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

- Questions in this part with the responses *strongly disagree*, *disagree*, *agree*, *strongly agree*, and *no opinion*, used these values for calculating the average:

Strongly Disagree	1.0
Disagree	2.0
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	2.5
Agree	3.0
Strongly Agree	4.0
Don't Know	0.0

The higher the average, the more likely respondents, in the aggregate, were to agree with the statement.

- The question asking how much people would miss their neighborhood used these responses:

Not at All	0.0
Not Much	1.0
Somewhat	2.0
Very Much	3.0

The higher the average, the more respondents, in the aggregate, were to miss their neighborhood if they had to move away.

- Questions about social ties used scales assessing *how often* something is done.

Never	0.0
Less than Once a Month	1.0
Monthly	2.0
Weekly	3.0
Daily	4.0

The higher the average, the more often respondents, in the aggregate, interacted with their neighbors in the manner described.

- How interconnected people are with their neighbors was measured with these scales:

None	0.0
One or Two	1.0
Several	2.0
The Majority	3.0
All or Almost All	4.0

The higher the average, the more respondents, in the aggregate, were familiar with their neighbors.

None	0.0
1-3	1.0
4-6	2.0
7-9	3.0
10 or more	4.0

The higher the average, the greater the friends or relative respondents, in the aggregate, knew in the neighborhood. Readers are cautioned not to interpret the average as the *actual* number of friends or relatives in the neighborhood.

- The questions concerning fear of crime used these values for calculating the average:

Not at All	0.0
A Little	1.0
Moderately	2.0
A Lot	3.0

The higher the average, the more fearful respondents, in the aggregate, were of the crime mentioned in the question.

Never	0.0
Rarely	1.0
Sometimes	2.0
Often	3.0

The higher the average, the more respondents, in the aggregate, were prevented from doing things they like to do because of fear of crime.

- Averages for the questions asking respondents how many times certain crimes had happened in their neighborhood in the past 6 months were calculated used these values:

Never	0.0
Once	1.0
Twice	2.0
Three Times	3.0
Four or More Times	4.0

The higher the average, the more crimes of that type were reported by respondents.

Part IV: Local Government: Access, Policies, and Practices

- All the questions in this part used the responses *strongly disagree*, *disagree*, *agree*, *strongly agree*, and *no opinion*. Below are the values used for calculating the average:

Strongly Disagree	1.0
Disagree	2.0
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	2.5
Agree	3.0
Strongly Agree	4.0
Don't Know	0.0

The higher the average, the more likely respondents, in the aggregate, were to agree with the statement.

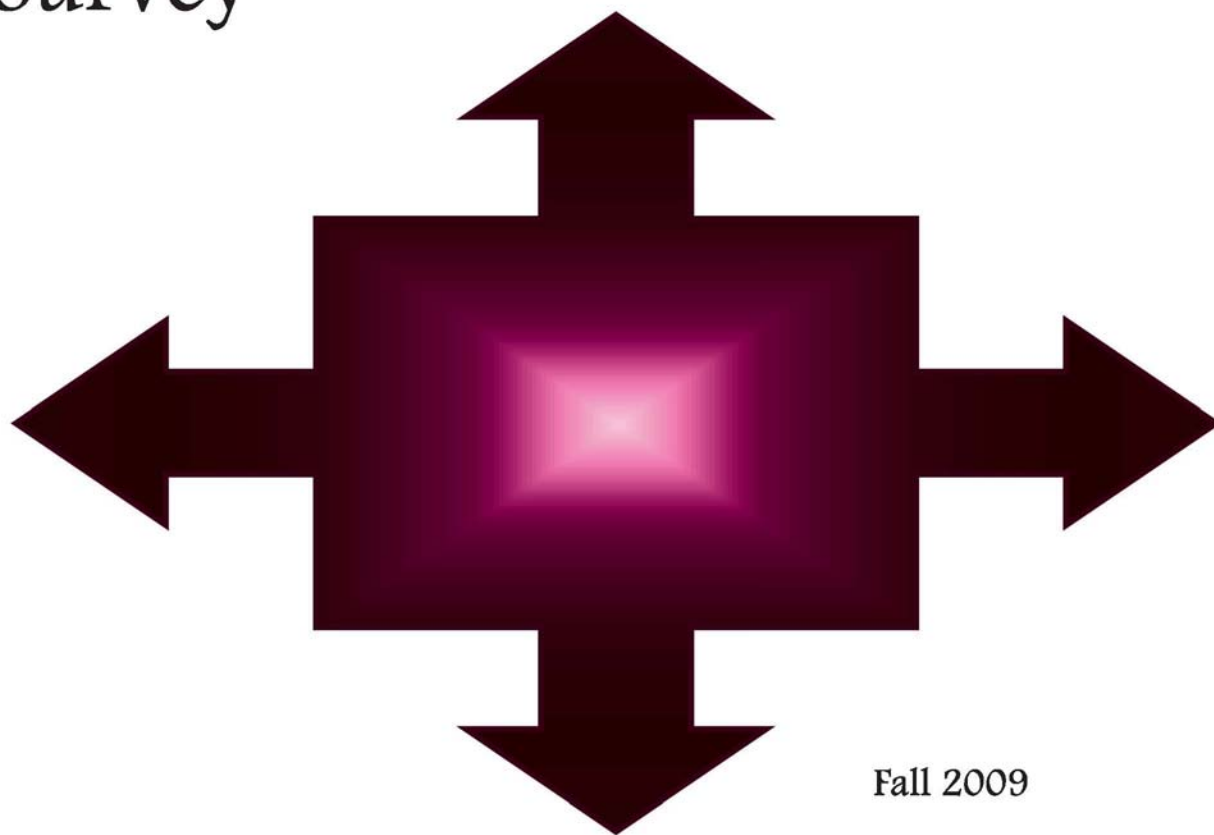
Part V: Respondent Background Information

- Averages were calculated using actual numerical responses to the questions concerning age, the numbers of adults and children in the household, the number of children attending Mat-Su Borough School District schools, how long the respondent planned to live in the Borough, and how long he or she had already lived there.

Appendix B:

Questionnaire

Matanuska~Susitna Community Survey



Fall 2009

Please return your completed questionnaire
in the enclosed pre-stamped envelope to:

The Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage

3211 Providence Drive

~

Anchorage, AK 99508

Your answers are completely confidential. When you submit your completed questionnaire, your name will be deleted from the mailing list and never connected to your answers in any way. When the dataset is made public, no names, addresses, or pin numbers will be connected to your answers, and no answers to essay questions will be included in the public data file. This survey is voluntary. However, it would be very helpful if you take a few minutes to share your experiences and opinions about the Borough. Returning your completed questionnaire grants your consent for the information you provide to be used for this research.

Thank you very much for helping with this important study.

Part I: Evaluation of Current Borough Services

Please fill in one bubble for each service.

1. How would you rate these Emergency Services?

	Very Poor	Poor	Good	Very Good	Don't Know
Fire Department Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ambulance Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. How would you rate these Road Maintenance Services?

	Very Poor	Poor	Good	Very Good	Don't Know
Roadway Maintenance Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Snowplow Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. How would you rate these Educational Services/Resources?

	Very Poor	Poor	Good	Very Good	Don't Know
Library Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Elementary Schools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Middle Schools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
High Schools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Enhancement Programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. How would you rate these Recreational Services?

	Very Poor	Poor	Good	Very Good	Don't Know
Wasilla Swimming Pool	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Palmer Swimming Pool	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Brett Memorial Ice Arena	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Athletic Fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. How would you rate these Public Sanitation Services?

	Very Poor	Poor	Good	Very Good	Don't Know
Recycling Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Central Landfill Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. How would you rate these General/Miscellaneous Services?

	Very Poor	Poor	Good	Very Good	Don't Know
Animal Care & Regulation Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Code/Zoning Enforcement Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dissemination of news and information by the Borough government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your Overall Rating of Borough Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part II: Use of Borough Facilities

7. How often do you use Borough Public Libraries?

- ☐ Never **(Please fill bubble then skip to question 9.)**
- ☐ Seldom
- ☐ Occasionally
- ☐ Fairly Often
- ☐ Very Often

8. Which (if any) of these Borough libraries do you use? (Please check all that apply.)

- ☐ Big Lake Public Library
- ☐ Palmer Public Library
- ☐ Sutton Public Library
- ☐ Talkeetna Public Library
- ☐ Trapper Creek Public Library
- ☐ Wasilla Public Library
- ☐ Willow Public Library

9. How often do you use Borough Recreational Facilities?

- ☐ Never **(Please fill bubble then skip to question 11.)**
- ☐ Seldom
- ☐ Occasionally
- ☐ Fairly Often
- ☐ Very Often

10. Which (if any) of these Borough Recreational Facilities do you use? (Please check all that apply.)

- ☐ Palmer Swimming Pool
- ☐ Wasilla Swimming Pool
- ☐ Brett Memorial Ice Arena
- ☐ Crevasse Moraine Trails
- ☐ Other Borough Trails

11. How often do you use the Borough's MASCOT Public Transportation?

- ☐ Never
- ☐ Seldom
- ☐ Occasionally
- ☐ Fairly Often
- ☐ Very Often

Part III: Life in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Neighborhoods

12. The Mat-Su Borough as a Place to Live

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't Know
Personally, I would rate my neighborhood as an excellent place to live.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
On the whole, I like this neighborhood as a place to live.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Suppose that for some reason you HAD to move away from this neighborhood. Would you miss the neighborhood very much, somewhat, not much, or not at all?			Not at all <input type="checkbox"/>	Not much <input type="checkbox"/>	Somewhat <input type="checkbox"/>	Very much <input type="checkbox"/>

Feelings of Community

13. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't Know
People in my neighborhood can be trusted.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People in my neighborhood generally <i>do not</i> get along with each other.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People in my neighborhood <i>do not</i> share the same values.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People in my neighborhood are willing to help their neighbors.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mine is a close-knit neighborhood.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Neighborhood Informal Social Control

14. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't Know
One or more of my neighbors could be counted on to intervene if children were spray-painting graffiti on a local building.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
At least one of my neighbors would intervene if children were showing disrespect toward an adult.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
One or more of my neighbors would intervene if the fire station closest to their home was threatened with budget cuts.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
One or more of my neighbors could be counted on to intervene if a fight broke out in front of their home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
At least one of my neighbors would intervene if children were skipping school and hanging out on a neighborhood street corner.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

15. Social Ties

	Never	Less than once a month	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
How often do you borrow something from or loan something to a neighbor?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How often do you visit with a neighbor, out in the neighborhood or in one of your homes?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	None	One or two	Several	The majority	All or almost all
How many of your neighbors would you say that you know by sight or by name?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	None	1-3	4-6	7-9	10 or more
Not counting those who live with you, how many friends and relatives do you have in your neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

16. Do any of the following conditions exist in your neighborhood?

	No	Yes
Abandoned cars and/or buildings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rundown or neglected buildings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poor lighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overgrown shrubs or trees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trash in streets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Empty lots	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public drinking/public drug use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public drug sales	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vandalism or graffiti	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prostitution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Panhandling/begging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Loitering/hanging out	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Truancy/youth skipping school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transients/homeless sleeping on streets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

17. Crime in the Community

	Not at all	A little	Moderately	A lot
To what extent are you fearful that you or members of your household will be the victim of burglary (while you or your loved ones are at home)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To what extent are you fearful that you or a member of your household will be the victim of a sexual assault?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To what extent are you fearful that you or a member of your household will be the victim of a murder?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To what extent are you fearful that you or a member of your household will be the victim of a kidnapping?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To what extent are you fearful that you or a member of your household will be attacked with a weapon?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often
How often does worry about crime prevent you from doing things you would like to do in your neighborhood?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

18. How often has each of the following things happened in your neighborhood during the past 6 months?
- | | Never | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 or more |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| A fight in which a weapon was used | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| A violent argument between neighbors | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| A gang fight | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| A sexual assault or rape | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| A robbery, burglary, or mugging | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
19. While you have lived in this neighborhood, has anyone ever used violence, such as in a mugging, fight, or sexual assault, against you, or any member of your household anywhere in your neighborhood?
- ☐ No ☐ Yes
20. Below is a list of things people may do for self-protection or to feel more secure in their homes and neighborhoods. Which of these things do you do? Please check all that apply.
- ☐ Lock doors at night and when you are away from home
 - ☐ Lock doors during the day and when you are at home
 - ☐ Use a home security system
 - ☐ Use a security system on vehicle(s)
 - ☐ Have a dog
 - ☐ Take self-defense lessons
 - ☐ Keep a firearm
 - ☐ Develop a signal for "danger" with neighbors
 - ☐ Keep a phone in the bedroom to call for help
 - ☐ Have outside/automatic lights to deter prowlers
 - ☐ Attend neighborhood watch meetings
 - ☐ Other (please specify) _____
21. When did you move to your current home? (Please provide year and month, if known)
- Month _____ Year _____

Part IV: Local Government: Access, Policies, and Practices

Public Access to Borough Government

22. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
- | | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Neither agree nor disagree | Agree | Strongly agree | Don't Know |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Overall, I am satisfied with the opportunities the Borough provides to give input on decisions. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I find the Borough's website easy to use. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I would describe the Borough's website as "informative". | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| When I call the Borough, I usually get the information I need in a timely manner. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

22. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't Know
When I call the Borough, the person I speak with is usually polite and professional.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Borough Spending Efficiency and Priorities

23. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't Know
I feel I am getting my money's worth for the taxes I pay to the Mat-Su Borough.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Funds should be spent to preserve open spaces in the Borough.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The current level of road maintenance in my area is worth what I pay in road service area taxes.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Revenue and Taxation

24. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't Know
I would support an increase in the tobacco tax to raise money to pay for services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would support a local tax on alcoholic beverages to raise money to pay for services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would support an increase in the bed tax (charged at hotels) to pay for services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would support a <i>seasonal</i> sales tax to raise money to pay for services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would support a <i>year-round</i> sales tax to raise money to pay for services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would support imposing an impact fee on developers for residential and commercial properties to raise money to pay for services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would support a local tax on gasoline to raise money to pay for services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would support increased property taxes to raise money to pay for services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would support a gravel extracting tax to raise money to pay for services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would support a real estate transfer fee of \$25 to raise money to pay for services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Zoning and Land Use Issues

25. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't Know
As of today, I am satisfied with the way the Mat-Su Borough has been developed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Traffic congestion is a <i>serious</i> problem in the Mat-Su Borough.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am very concerned about water quality in the Borough.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In the future, the Mat-Su Borough must do a better job of managing growth and development.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part V: Respondent Background Information

This demographic information helps researchers at the university to better understand features of community and civic attitudes as they relate to individual characteristics. These responses will be kept confidential, and your answers to these and all of the questions in this survey will not be traceable to you.

If there are any questions that you do not wish to answer, please simply skip those items and move onto the next question in the survey. Your answers are valuable whether you choose to answer every question or not.

26. How old were you on your last birthday? _____

27. What is your gender? ☐ Female ☐ Male

28. What is your marital status?

- ☐ Single, Never Married
- ☐ Married
- ☐ Separated
- ☐ Divorced
- ☐ Widowed

29. What is your highest level of formal education?

- ☐ Less than a High School Diploma
- ☐ High School Diploma or Equivalent
- ☐ Some College, No Degree
- ☐ Associates or Other 2-year Degree
- ☐ Bachelor's Degree
- ☐ Graduate Degree

30. Are you of Hispanic or Latino/a background or origin? ☐ No ☐ Yes
31. What race or ethnicity would you say best describes you?
- ☐ Alaska Native or American Indian
 - ☐ Asian
 - ☐ Black or African American
 - ☐ Native Hawaiian, Samoan, or Other Pacific Islander
 - ☐ White or Caucasian
 - ☐ Other (specify) _____
32. What is your best estimate of your total household income from last year?
- ☐ Less than \$20,000
 - ☐ \$20,000 to \$34,999
 - ☐ \$35,000 to \$49,999
 - ☐ \$50,000 to \$74,999
 - ☐ \$75,000 to \$99,999
 - ☐ \$100,000 or more
33. Including yourself, how many people currently live in your household? _____
34. How many children under the age of 18 currently live in your home?
(Please enter "0" if no children live with you, and skip to question 36.) _____
35. How many of your children currently attend Mat-Su Borough School District Schools? _____
36. Which of the following best describes your current primary employment status?
- ☐ Self-employed, Full-time
 - ☐ Employed, Full-time
 - ☐ Full-time Homemaker ☐ Please fill bubble then skip to question 39.
 - ☐ Full-time Student ☐ Please fill bubble then skip to question 39.
 - ☐ Employed, Part-time
 - ☐ Disabled, Unable to Work ☐ Please fill bubble then skip to question 39.
 - ☐ Unemployed, Looking for Work ☐ Please fill bubble then skip to question 39.
 - ☐ Unemployed, Not Looking for Work ☐ Please fill bubble then skip to question 39.
 - ☐ Retired ☐ Please fill bubble then skip to question 39.

37. If you are Employed:
 What type of work do you do? _____
 What is the zip code where you work? _____
38. If you are currently self-employed, do you own a business in the Mat-Su Borough? ☐ No ☐ Yes
39. Do you own your home or do you rent? (If you rent, please fill the "rent" bubble, then skip to question 41.) ☐ Own ☐ Rent
40. If you do own your home, what is your best estimate of its current market value?
☐ Less than \$75,000
☐ \$75,000 to \$124,999
☐ \$125,000 to \$199,999
☐ \$200,000 to \$299,999
☐ \$300,000 or more
41. Whether you own or rent your home, is your address number posted where it can be seen by first responders in case of an emergency? ☐ No ☐ Yes
42. Do you live in a condominium? ☐ No ☐ Yes
43. Do you currently have a second home outside the Mat-Su Borough? ☐ No ☐ Yes
44. Do you see yourself staying in the Mat-Su Borough for the long term? ☐ No ☐ Yes
45. Do you see yourself leaving the Mat-Su Borough to live somewhere else in the foreseeable future? ☐ No ☐ Yes
46. If you do see yourself leaving, how many more years do you expect to live in the Mat-Su Borough before you leave? _____
47. How many years have you lived in the Mat-Su Borough? _____

48. Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about life in the Mat-Su Borough, your preferences for future growth and planning, or your opinions about Borough services?